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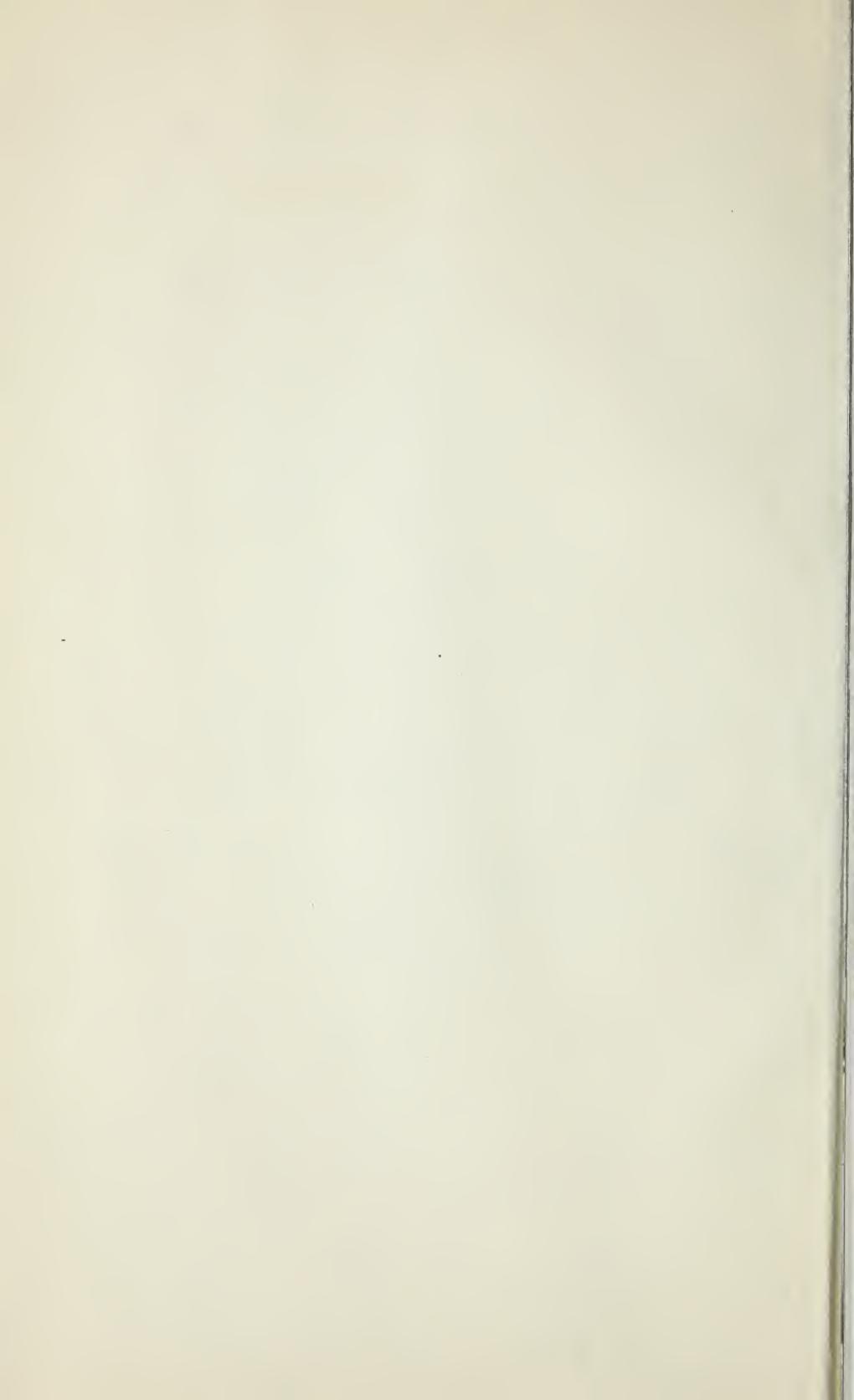
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A Brief History of York County

By GEORGE R. PROWELL

Curator and Librarian of the Historical Society of York
County; Member of the National Geographic
Society; Member of the American
Historical Association, Etc.

Published by Request, for use of Teachers and
others, desiring to obtain the leading facts
relating to Local History

YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

1906

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H. W. H.

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1906

(Continued)

July 20, 1947 (cont'd.)

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF YORK COUNTY.

Soon after William Penn made his treaty with the Indians at Philadelphia in 1682, under the famous elm tree, he laid off the eastern part of his province into three counties, Chester, Philadelphia and Bucks. In 1696 an emissary was sent to central New York, the seat of government of the Five Nations of Indians, who by right of conquest over the native tribes along the Susquehanna, claimed the territory of what is now Central Pennsylvania. A provisional treaty was made January 15, 1696, with the five nations for all the tract of land lying on both sides of the Susquehanna. This treaty was confirmed by the Susquehannock Indians September 18, 1700, in a deed given by two chiefs of that tribe. But the Conestoga Indians, a small tribe located along the river a few miles south of the present site of Columbia, claimed that the Indians mentioned above had no right to make a treaty conveying the lands to the proprietor of Pennsylvania. William Penn, upon his second trip to America, visited the Conestoga Indians and in the presence of their chiefs, unfolded the deed or parchment, laid it on the ground before them and with the gentle words of a loving parent, said: "The lands along the Susquehanna shall lie in common between my people and your people and we will dwell in peace together."

In 1722, four years after the death of William Penn, Sir William Keith, governor of the province of Pennsylvania, met the chiefs of the Conestoga Indians and obtained permission to survey a tract of 2,000 acres west of the Susquehanna extending from the site of Wrightsville to the mouth of the Codorus. This he named his "Newberry Tract," which was believed to have rich mineral deposits. The same year, after another council with the Conestogas, he obtained permission of them to survey 64,000 acres of land on the west side of the river to prevent the encroachments of Maryland "squatters." This vast area, extending from the Susquehanna to several miles west of York, he named "Springettsbury Manor," in honor of Springett Penn, the eldest grandson of William Penn, who then was supposed to inherit the proprietary rights to the entire province; for his father, the eldest son of William

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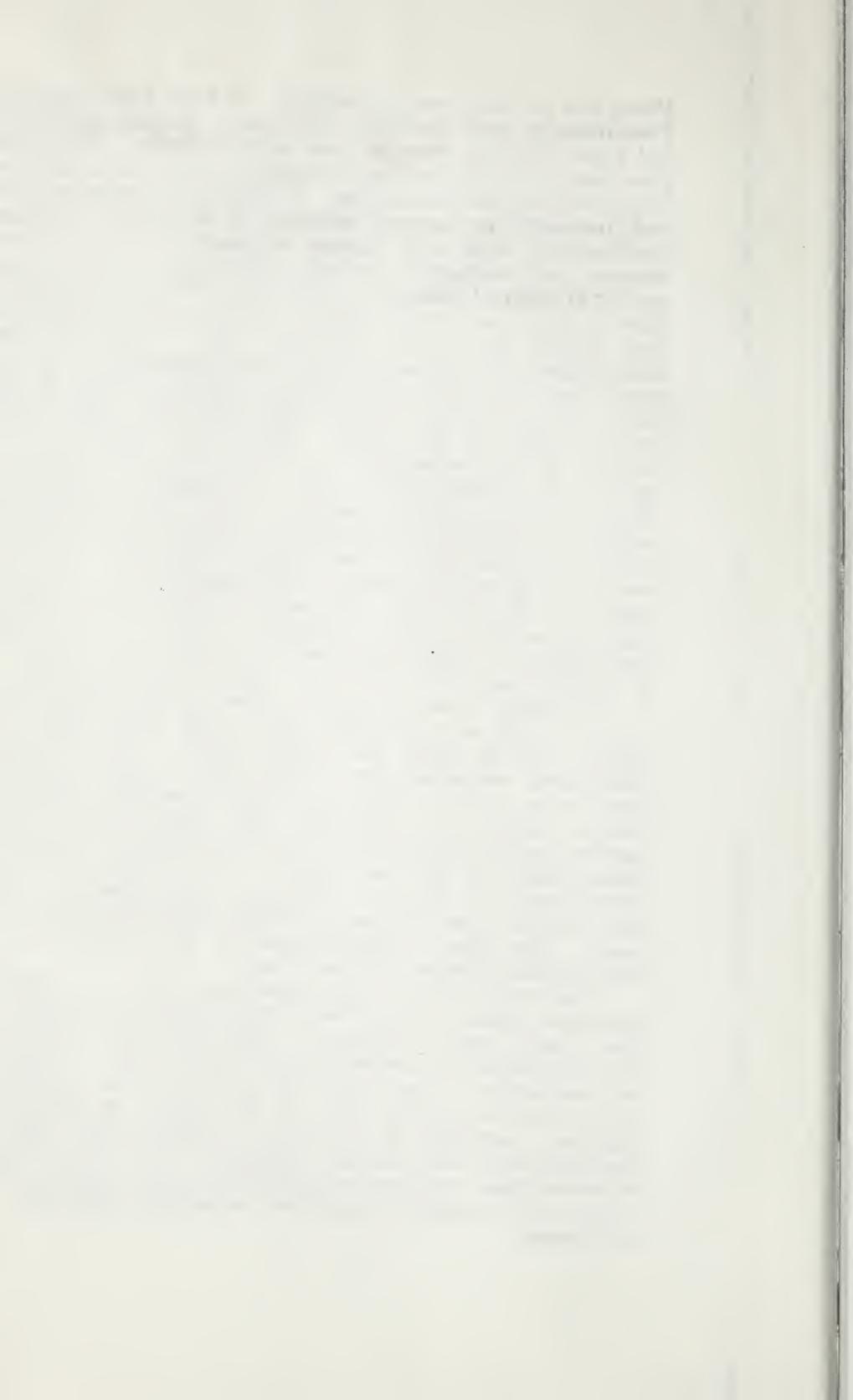
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Penn, had recently died in England. But the real owners of Pennsylvania soon thereafter were John, Thomas and Richard Penn, the three younger sons of the founder. As the region east of the Susquehanna became settled, the county of Lancaster was laid off in 1729. It embraced its present area and included the present counties of Dauphin, Lebanon, Cumberland, York and Adams, without any well defined western and northern boundaries. Between the years 1733 and 1736, Samuel Blunston, agent of the Penns at Wright's Ferry, granted permits for settlers to locate on the Springettsbury Manor, and on the Newberry Tract. These were the first authorized settlements west of the Susquehanna. As yet these lands were not considered as purchased from the Indians, for even the five nations still claimed the rights to the western banks of the stream. They held a council in the country of the Onondagos and arranged to send twenty of their chiefs to Philadelphia, where, on October 11, 1736, these "Red men of the forest," granted to John, Thomas and Richard Penn, "all the river Susquehanna and all the lands on the west side of said river, to the setting of the Sun." After the treaty of 1736 was confirmed in Philadelphia, the fertile lands west of the Susquehanna were rapidly settled, and in August, 1749, the county of York, embracing Adams, and in 1750, Cumberland, covering a large area of territory, were organized as the fifth and sixth counties of Penn's princely domain.

An energetic and progressive class of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians took up most of the lands in the lower end of the county, and the region now Adams county. The rich limestone lands, extending from Wrightsville to Hanover and beyond, were settled by Germans of the Lutheran, Reformed, German Baptist and Mennonite faith. They came in large numbers, most of them direct from the Fatherland, the Palatinate country of the lower Rhine, or the German portion of Switzerland. Of the 6,000 people in York county in 1749, fully one-half were Germans, a thrifty, frugal and industrious people, who came to Pennsylvania by the invitation of the distinguished founder, William Penn.

The region north of the Conewago creek was settled by intelligent Quakers from Chester and Lancaster counties and New Castle county, Delaware. They, too, came rapidly and soon populated the northern part of the county. A number of them settled in and around York, which was founded in 1741 under the Quaker rule; for the Society of Friends, or Quakers, controlled the province of Pennsylvania nearly a hundred years after the first landing of Penn. The Friends organized their meetings and built houses of worship in Newberry and Warrington townships immediately after the first settlement.



First Stone House.

In 1737, John Shultz and his wife Christina, built the first large stone house, within the limits of York County, at a time when there were no other two-story houses west of the Susquehanna. It was originally in Hellam, but now in Springett Township. This house is in an excellent state of preservation even though it is now one hundred and seventy years old. During its early history, it was one of the old time public inns and if it could speak might tell many an interesting story of our colonial days, as well as of Revolutionary times. A well authenticated tradition asserts that on the 30th of September,



The Shultz House

1777, some of the members of the Continental Congress, while on their way from Philadelphia to York, to make that place the seat of government during the British invasion of Pennsylvania and occupancy of Philadelphia, stopped at this house for rest and refreshment. They were traveling on horseback and the saddles used by those distinguished patriots greatly excited the curiosity of the surrounding populace, who were then unaccustomed to see such expensive luxuries. The house is quaint and antique in design, though yet a convenient and comfortable residence. One of the walls contains the

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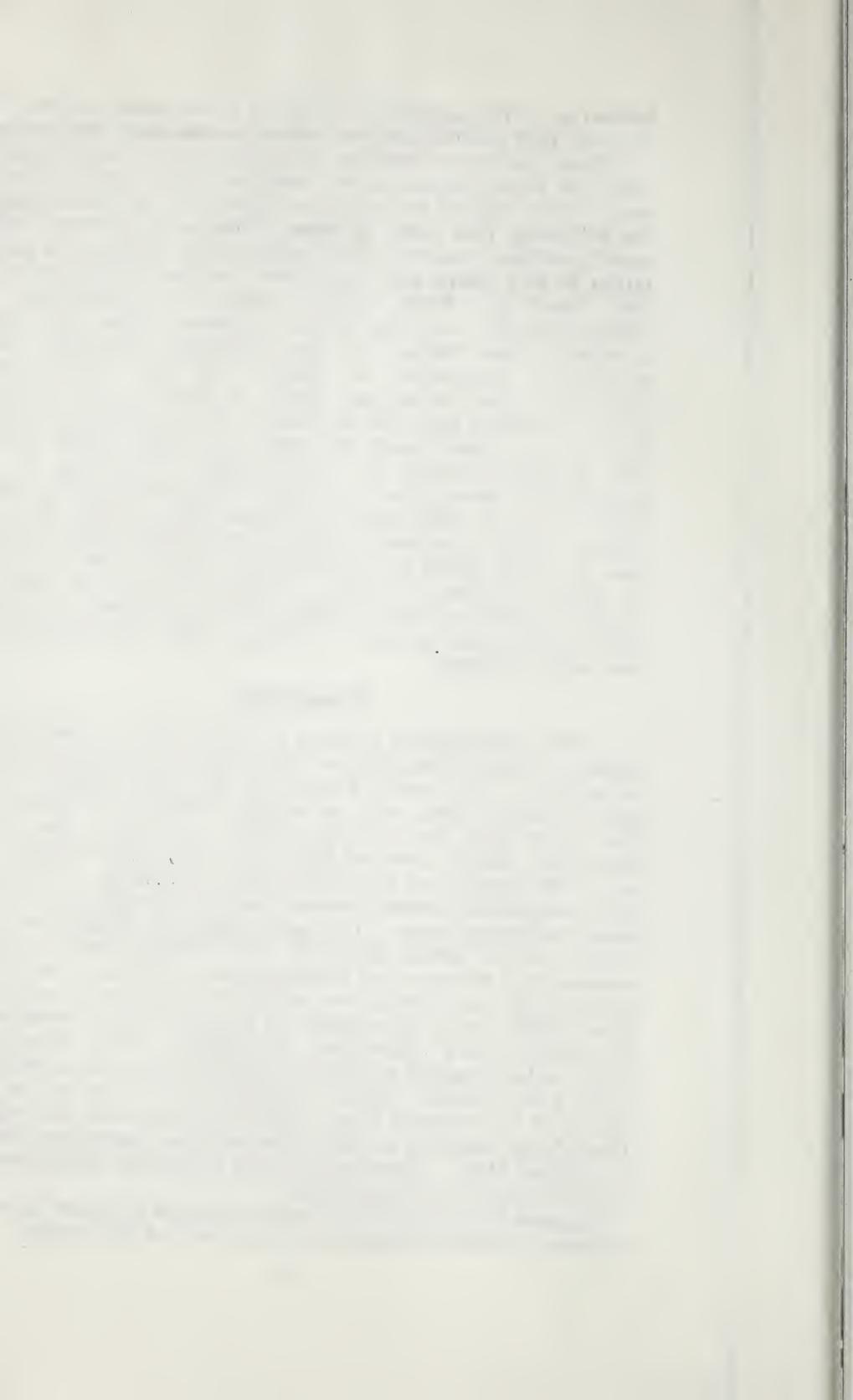
following words carefully carved on a sandstone tablet: "In the year 1737 John Shultz and wife Christina built this house."

York county as laid out in 1749 contained 1,469 square miles, or about 950,000 acres, and had 1,466 taxable inhabitants. The original population of 6,000 was increased during the following two years to 8,000. This will illustrate how rapidly settlers came into the county, as the increase in population in two years was thirty-three and one-third per cent. The area of York county since the formation of Adams county in 1800 is 921 square miles. In 1783 a census was taken by the township assessors, who reported a population of 27,007. Of this number 17,007 lived within the present limits of York county. There were in addition 657 colored slaves, whose term of servitude had not yet expired under the state act of 1780, which gradually abolished slavery in Pennsylvania. According to the government census report for 1790, York county had a population of 37,747. The next census was taken in 1800, the year Adams county was formed, when York county had a population of 25,643, which was increased in 1810 to 31,900; in 1820, to 38,759; in 1830, to 42,859; in 1840, to 47,010; in 1850, to 57,450; in 1860, to 68,200; in 1870, to 76,134; in 1880, to 87,841; in 1890, to 95,548; in 1900, to 116,413. The estimated population now is 130,000.

Topography.

The topographical features of York County consist principally of easy-rolling hill and valley surface in a great variety of aspects. The county belongs to the open country of the great Atlantic plain, with an average elevation of about 500 feet above high tide at Philadelphia. A ridge of the South Mountains, about 1,000 feet high, enters the northwestern corner of the county and terminates above Dillsburg. A spur of these mountains extends across Fairview township and down along the Susquehanna. Enclosed within the different smaller ridges are the fertile Redlands and Fishing Creek Valleys, composed of the new red sandstone and red shale formations. Round Top, 1,110 feet above sea level, and its quiet neighbor, Knell's Hill, are isolated peaks of basalt or trap formation in Warrington and Monaghan Townships. The Conewago Hills, isolated ridges of South Mountain, cross the county toward York Haven. Above Wrightsville, as far as to the mouth of the Codorus Creek, extending westward toward the Harrisburg pike, is a wooded ridge of white sandstone, known as Hellam Hills. Between this and Conewago Hills there is a wide extent of red sandstone.

Pidgeon Hills, named in honor of Joseph Pidgeon, an early surveyor, extend through the western part of the county. The



southeastern portion of the county contains slate ridges and hills, and extensive quarries are worked in Peach Bottom Township, yielding roofing slate of the very best quality. The Martic Ridge crosses the Susquehanna from Lancaster County, on which ridge there are many high bluffs along the west side of the river. This ridge passes westward to Jefferson. The southern and southwestern parts of the county are undulating, and contain here and there wooded hills.

Conewago Creek and its branches, Little Conewago, Bermudian Creek and Stony Run, drain the northern and northwestern parts of the county. Codorus Creek with its two branches, flows through the central part, past York. Muddy Creek with two large branches, drains the southeastern portion. These streams provide a plentiful irrigation.

The surface of the county furnishes a variety of scenery—rugged and fair, mountain and river, hill and plain, glen and dale, purling and dashing streams. The climate is changeable but salubrious. The people who inhabit this fair land are well adapted to the cultivation of the means of enjoyment and prosperity so bountifully afforded them.

York county has the shape of an irregular quadrangle. It borders on Maryland and lies on the parallel of latitude, 39 degrees, 43 minutes, 26.3 seconds (Mason and Dixon's line), and extends northward nearly to Harrisburg, or about 15 minutes above the fortieth parallel, which crosses the county through Emigsville. The county is crossed by the meridian of Washington, and with reference to that, its extreme eastern and western points are in longitude respectively 45 minutes east and 10 minutes west. York County extends along the Maryland line about forty-five miles, bordering on the counties of Harford, Baltimore and Carroll. It adjoins on the north and west the counties of Cumberland and Adams. It contains an area of 921 square miles. The Susquehanna River flows for nearly fifty-five miles along the eastern boundary, and the extreme eastern point of its southern boundary is about fifteen miles north of Havre de Grace, at the head of the Chesapeake Bay.

As has been stated above, the highest elevation in the County is Round Top, which is 1,110 feet above mean tide at Philadelphia. The elevation of Red Lion is 900 feet. Shunk's Hill, 880 feet; New Freedom, 827 feet; Maryland line south of Hanover, 820 feet; New Park, 812 feet; Fawn Grove, 810 feet. These are some of the highest points in the County.

The elevation of Center Square, York, is 372 feet; Dillsburg, 540 feet; Hanover, 590 feet; Wrightsville, at river, 214 feet; Dallastown, 656 feet; Lewisberry, 601 feet; Dover, 431 feet.

State Line, at Susquehanna, is 68 feet; Peach Bottom, on



canal, 101 feet; McCall's Ferry, 117 feet; Muddy Creek Forks, 121 feet. These are some of the lowest elevations in the County.

Organization of Townships.

In 1739, the same year that the Monocacy Road was laid out through the present sites of Wrightsville, York and Hanover, to the vicinity of Frederick, Maryland, the provincial assembly of Pennsylvania passed a special act, which empowered the county court at Lancaster to "lay off that portion of Lancaster county west of the Susquehanna into townships." Under the provisions of this act, in 1739, the township of Hellam, which originally included most of the present York County, and Pennsborough Township, embracing all of Cumberland County, was laid out without any surveyed western boundaries. Soon thereafter the first named township was divided into Upper Hallam and Lower Hallam. When the Indian treaty was confirmed by the provincial authorities at Philadelphia in 1736, the rightful authority of Lancaster County extended west of the Susquehanna. From that date until 1739, the officers of Hempfield Township, which included the present site of Columbia, exercised authority on this side of the river. Samuel Blunston, the agent of the Penns at Wright's Ferry, was given authority to issue permits to settlers west of the river. He was born in the township of Upper Hallam in the County of York, England. During the first thirty years after 1739, the oldest township in this county was called "Hallam." In 1742 the townships of Manchester, Newberry and Shrewsbury were laid out by Thomas Cookson, deputy surveyor. Manchester extended north to the Conewago Creek and had no well defined western boundary. Newberry then included the present Fairview township. In 1783 it contained more inhabitants than the town of York, or any township in the county. Shrewsbury included the present Hopewells and Springfield townships. In 1745 Lower Hallam township was organized into Chanceford, embracing Lower Chanceford and Fawn, including Peach Bottom. Warrington was laid out in 1744. Monaghan in 1745. Dover, Codorus, Paradise and Manheim in 1747. All the foregoing townships were established by the Lancaster county court. Heidelberg was laid out in 1750; York, 1753; Windsor, 1757; Hopewell, 1767; West Manchester, 1800; Washington from Warrington, and Fairview from Newberry in 1803; Lower Chanceford from Chanceford, 1805; Franklin, in 1809; Peachbottom from Fawn, in 1815; Conewago from Dover, in 1818; Springgarden from Hellam and York, in 1822; Carroll from Monaghan, in 1831; Springfield from Shrewsbury, in 1835; Lower Windsor from

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Windsor, in 1838; Jackson from Paradise, in 1857, and West Manheim from Manheim, in 1858.

Early Church Organizations.

In September, 1733, the early Lutherans took steps to organize a church west of the Susquehanna. It was in that year that twenty persons contributed each a small amount toward buying a record book for the congregation. These early emigrants lived on the fertile lands east and west of York.

The first pastor of this congregation for ten years was John Casper Stoever, then only 25 years old, a native of Frankenburg, Germany. He was ordained for the ministry by Rev. Schulze in a barn in Montgomery county. He organized many other churches in Lancaster, Berks and Lebanon counties, and died near Middletown in 1779.

The services of the early Lutherans were held in the barns and houses. In 1744, three years after York was founded, the first Lutheran church was built in York county on the site of Christ's Lutheran church, on South George street. The pastor of this, known as "The Evangelical Lutheran church of the Codorus," from 1743 to 1744, when he died, was Rev. David Candler, who, in 1743, organized "The Evangelical Lutheran church of the Conewago," now St. Matthew's Lutheran church, of Hanover, near which he resided. This parish extended from the Susquehanna to the vicinity of Frederick, Maryland, where he organized also "The Monocacy church."

Early members of the Reformed church settled west of the Susquehanna, contemporaneously with the Lutherans, and held their first religious services in private houses, conducted by missionaries. Rev. Jacob Lischey was the first regular pastor of the first church founded in York in 1742 on the present site of Zion's Reformed church, on West Market street. The congregation was organized about 1735.

Rev. Thomas Barton, the noted missionary and soldier, in 1755, and for ten years later, was the first rector of the St. John's Episcopal church, of York, and also officiated at Carlisle and York Springs. At first he was quite successful in preaching among the Indians in York and Cumberland counties. But during the French and Indian war he organized his people for defense against their allied foes. In a letter to the governor of the province in 1758, Mr. Barton is described as having "put himself at the head of his congregation, fully armed, and marched either day or night at every alarm." His descendants formed, for a long time, a well-known family in Philadelphia.

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The first house of worship in York county built by the Presbyterians was a log church at the junction of Scott's Run and Muddy Creek. The exact date of the organization of this church can not be ascertained. The building was doubtless erected soon after the first settlement, which was made about 1735. Three different buildings were erected in close succession and the fourth one, near the Slate Ridge church, in 1762. The Monaghan Presbyterian church, near Dillsburg, was founded about 1745.

The German Baptists, or Dunkers, a church body originated in Germany in 1708, sent its first emigrants to Pennsylvania in 1729. As early as 1738, a church of this denomination was organized in the western limits of York county. A church on the Bermudian was founded in 1741. The Dunkers and the Mennonites were among the first settlers west of the Susquehanna.

Methodism was introduced into York county by the noted traveling missionary, Rev. Freeborn Garretson. The first services conducted by him were held January 24, 1781, at the private house of James Worley, who resided on the farm now owned by Jacob Loucks, near West York. The subject of his sermon was, "Old things shall pass away and all things become new." The next evening he preached at Lewisberry. The first Methodist church in the county stood on the site of the First United Brethren church, of York.

The doctrines of the Evangelical association were first preached in York county by Revs. John Erb and Matthias Betz, who, in 1810 established three "preaching places"—one at Jacob Klinefelter's, in Shrewsbury township, one at the house of John Seitz, in Springfield township, and the third at the house of Adam Ettinger, in Dover township. The first church building owned by the association in this county was erected near Shrewsbury in 1822. It was the second church of the denomination in America. The first one was built at New Berlin, Union county, in 1815.

The first church of the United Brethren in Christ was built in Windsor township during the early part of the present century. Philip William Otterbein, the founder of this denomination, was ordained a minister in the Reformed church in 1749, in Germany. He came as a missionary, in 1752, to York and Lancaster counties. It was during his pastorate of churches, near York, that he adopted his "new measures." In 1744 he moved to Baltimore, where he soon afterward founded the original church of the denomination.

Rev. Samuel Bacon, a graduate of Harvard and an early teacher in the York County Academy, August 11, 1817, organized the first Sunday school in York county at his residence on Philadelphia street, York. He invited all Protestant denomi-



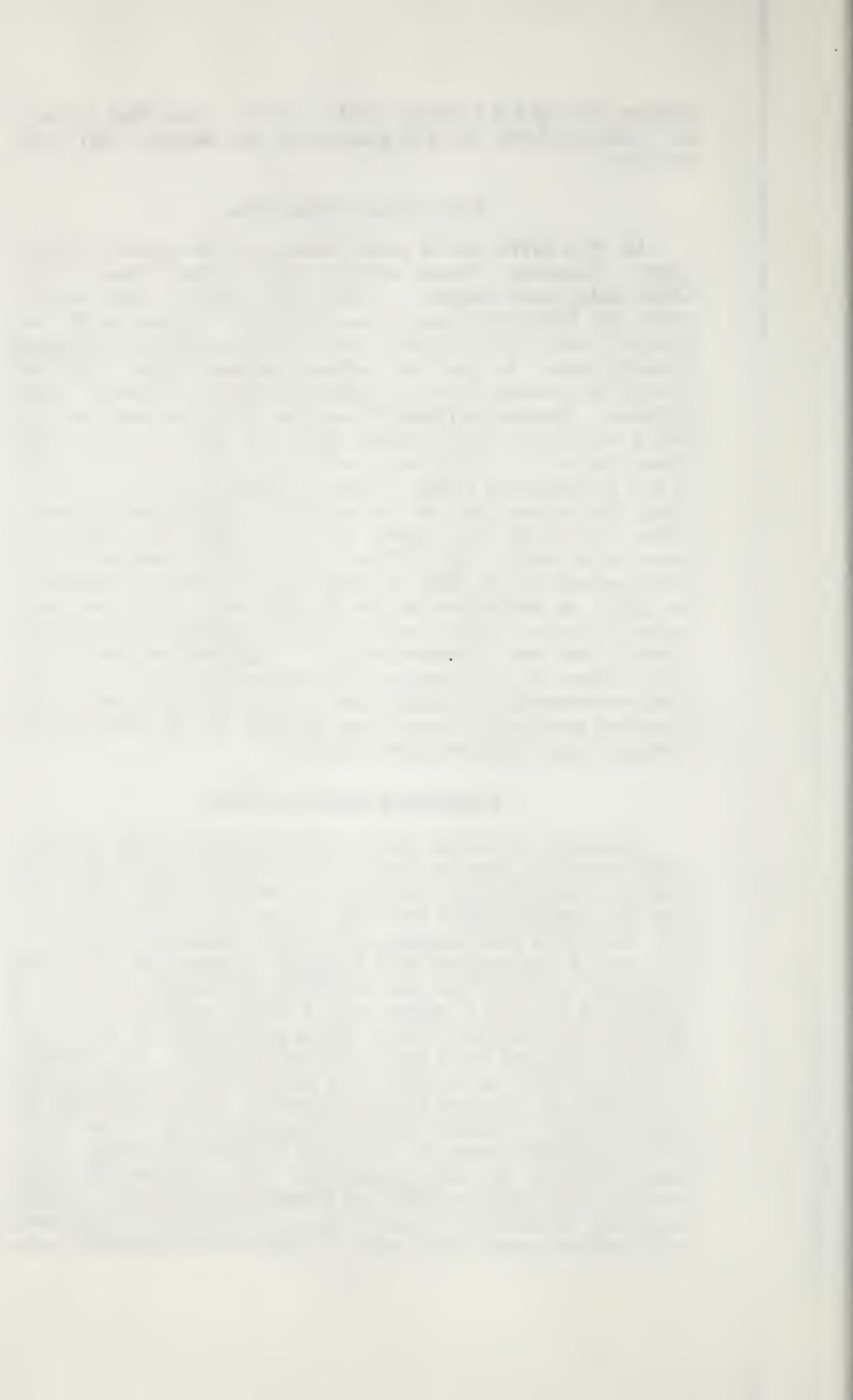
nations "to lend a helping hand." By the year 1819 twenty-six Union schools were organized in the county with 2,000 scholars.

French and Indian War.

In 1754 there was a storm brewing in Western Pennsylvania. Insidious French settlers were laying claim to the Ohio valley, and in order to effect their purpose, they had incited the Delawares and other tribes of Indians to be unfriendly toward the English and German settlers in Eastern Pennsylvania. In fact the Indians became allies with the French in erecting forts and other defenses in Western Pennsylvania. Benjamin Franklin and his two associates in 1754 had a conference with Indian chiefs at the Croghan Fort above the site of Harrisburg and at the new town of Carlisle in the Cumberland valley. They succeeded in part in reconciling the Indians, but the French had erected Fort Duquesne, where Pittsburg now stands, and two other forts some distance to the north. Sir William Pitt, then the Premier of England, persuaded the King to send General Edward Braddock, an officer of distinction in the English army, with two regiments of troops to this country for the purpose of driving the French from our Western frontier. Braddock landed in Virginia, where he met George Washington, then a young man, who volunteered to join Braddock as an aid on his staff. Two thousand provincial troops were ordered to be raised from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

Benjamin Franklin at York.

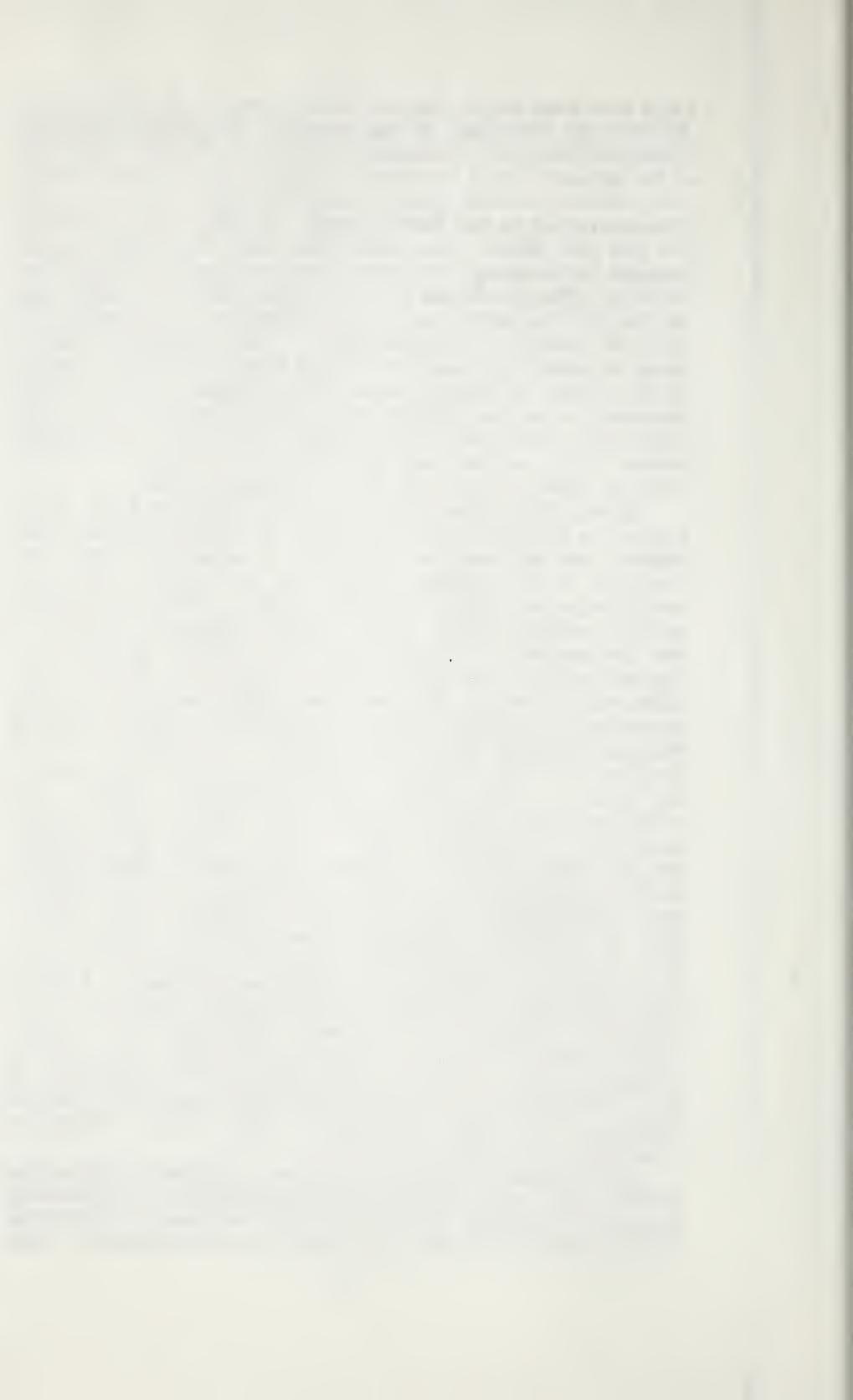
Benjamin Franklin, then a leading spirit in the Pennsylvania assembly, came to York in the summer of 1755 and soon afterward met General Braddock at Frederick, Md. He found that this English officer had only twenty-five wagons to transport his stores and baggage across the Allegheny Mountains. He needed 150 wagons and Franklin returned to York and Lancaster and sent his son, Richard, to Carlisle, offering 15 shillings a day for a wagon with a driver and four horses, 2 shillings a day for each horse with a pack saddle or other saddle, and 18 pence for a horse without a saddle. By pledging his own property as security, and paying for each team partly in advance, he secured the 150 wagons. Soon afterward Sir John St. Clair, a Scotch baronet, quarter-master of the Braddock expedition, came to York and Carlisle to secure 1,200 barrels of flour for this expedition. He obtained the flour from the grist-mills in York and Cumberland counties. Then, returning to Braddock's army, near Cumberland, Maryland, composed of nearly 3,000 men, St. Clair with 800 picked men



cut a new road across the mountains towards Fort Duquesne. Against the judgment of the youthful Washington, General Braddock advanced too hastily and was met a few miles west of the present site of Pittsburgh, where he was defeated, losing sixty officers, himself being among the killed. It was an inglorious defeat to the British army. In this battle Washington had two horses shot under him and four balls passed through his clothing. Only 400 men came out of the fight unharmed. The provincial troops served with more valor than the English regulars, and Colonel Dunbar, commanding the survivors, marched to Philadelphia. The triumphs of the Indians in defeating Braddock incited them to hostility against all the settlers of Pennsylvania. They began at once to make depredations on the frontier parts of the province east of the mountains, and most of the settlers fled across the Susquehanna. Men, women and children came in large numbers through York to cross the river at Wright's Ferry.

George Stevenson, the agent of the Penns at York, wrote a letter to Richard Peters, secretary of the province at Philadelphia, stating that the condition of affairs at York was alarming in the highest degree, for he expected the town would soon be visited by hostile Indians with the firebrand and the scalping knife. James Smith, afterward a signer of the Declaration of Independence, John Adlum, Herman Updegraff and Thomas Armour, Court Justices of York county, addressed letters to the Governor asking for arms and ammunition for companies about to be raised for defence, stating that one company, armed and equipped, commanded by Hance Hamilton, the first sheriff of York county, had already gone to the frontier. They further stated that hostile Indians were within one day's march of Harris' Ferry, and two days' march from York. Recruiting began at once at York and throughout the county and five companies were raised. Rev. Thomas Barton, missionary for the Episcopal Church at York, Carlisle and York Springs, commanded one company; Rev. Andrew Bay, Presbyterian clergyman, raised another. All ministers of the gospel were urged by the provincial authorities to rouse their members to prepare for defensive operations. Captain Hance Hamilton, with sixty Scotch-Irishmen, marched to Fort Littleton, a defense in the present region of Fulton county. Captain David Jameson, a physician of York, went with a company to Fort Augusta, on the present site of Sunbury. A line of fortifications and blockhouses had been built from the Delaware river along the eastern slope of the Allegheny mountains to the Maryland line.

It was determined now to send an expedition to defeat the Indians who were behind strong fortifications at Kittanning along the Allegheny River, forty miles northeast of Pittsburgh. Colonel John Armstrong, of Carlisle, was in command. Cap-



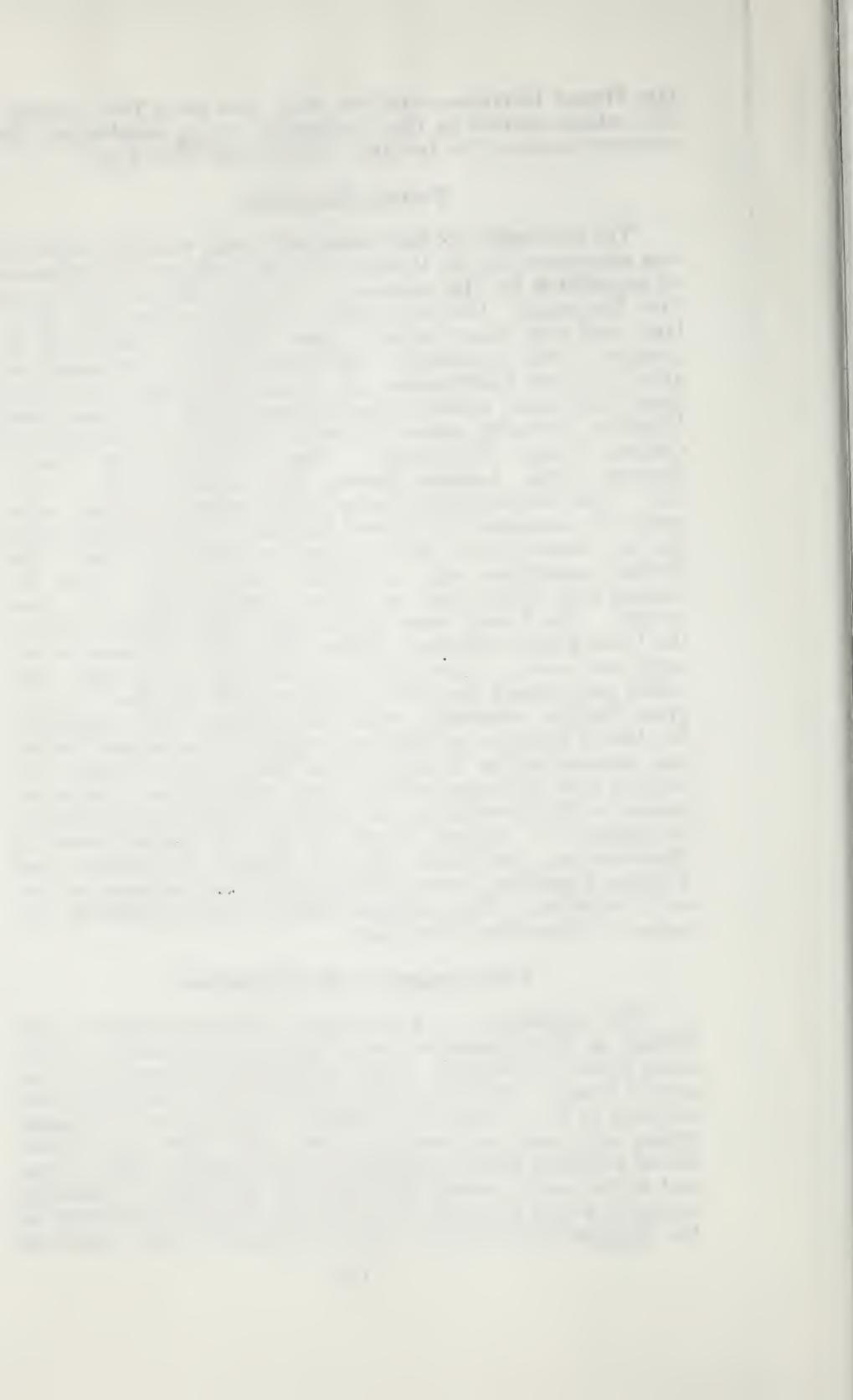
tain Hance Hamilton, with his sixty men from York County, did valiant service in this expedition, which resulted in the complete rout of the Indians. This occurred in 1756.

Forbes' Expedition.

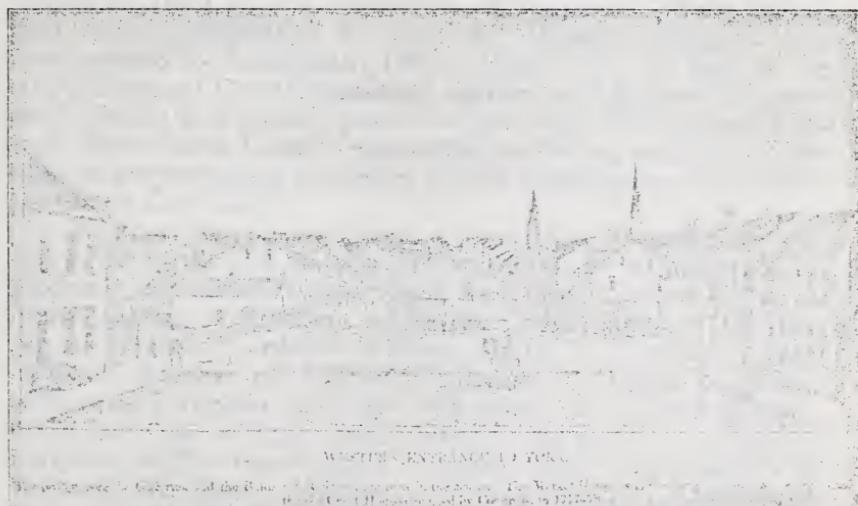
The provincial soldiers being successful with this affair, it was determined by Sir William Pitt, the next year, to organize an expedition for the conquest of the French and Indians at Fort Duquesne. General Forbes, a trained soldier from England, and with more sagacity than Braddock, was placed in charge of this expedition. He had under his command an army of 1,200 Highlanders, 350 royal Americans, and about 5,000 Provincial soldiers from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, including 2,000 Virginians under the command of Colonel George Washington. Many of these troops passed through York. General Forbes then rendezvoused at Carlisle. The Pennsylvania troops, about 2,000 in number, were under the command of Colonel Bouquet, a Swiss patriot who had an experience of several years in European wars. The Forbes expedition was a brilliant success and ended the French and Indian war, so far as Pennsylvania was concerned. The French were driven from Fort Duquesne down the Ohio River, and their Indian allies fled in dismay to the north and west. A new defense was built on the same site, which was named Fort Pitt, in honor of Sir William Pitt, the great English statesman, who had projected this expedition. Dr. David Jameson, of York, was major of the Second Battalion, commanded by Colonel James Burd; James Ewing, then living a few miles east of York, and who became a brigadier-general in the Revolution, was adjutant of the Third Battalion, commanded by Colonel Hugh Mercer, the bosom friend of Washington. Archibald McGrew, Robert McPherson, and Thomas Hamilton, from York County, were captains in Mercer's Battalion. That brilliant soldier, Hance Hamilton, was major of Armstrong's Battalion.

York County in the Revolution.

The inhabitants of York County after the defeat of the French at Fort Duquesne were never endangered by incursions from the Indians. They turned their attention to the arts of Peace. The little town on the Codorus received a new impetus of life. Many new houses were built and the population was soon increased to 1,500. But there was trouble ahead for these honest burghers of York and the tillers of the soil in the entire county and all over the thirteen American colonies, which had been founded and settled by authority of the English Government. It was charged by the American



colonists that the mother country was enforcing tyrannical laws which encroached upon the civil rights of American subjects. What is known to history as the Boston Port Bill caused dissension from New Hampshire to Georgia. Meetings were held in opposition to the laws which were being enforced by the King and Parliament. They were held in all the centres of population. One of these convened at York in 1774, being presided over by Michael Swope, afterward a Colonel in the Revolution. At this meeting it was decided by unanimous vote that the inhabitants of York County would support their brethren in Philadelphia and other parts of the colonies in asking for redress, and relief for the distressed condition of the inhabitants of Boston. Delegates were appointed to attend the first Provincial Conference at Philadelphia. James Smith attended this Conference and, soon after



WESTERN ENTRANCE TO YORK.

Western Entrance to York in 1844

his return home, organized in York, in 1774, the first military company in America to oppose British oppression and to defend the rights of the colonists. The following year Smith was made a Colonel of the militia for the Province of Pennsylvania.

York County Troops at Boston.

The tocsin of war was sounded by the speech of Patrick Henry before the Virginia assembly at Richmond, which was soon followed by the attack on the Provincial forces of Massachusetts at Concord and Lexington. The patriotic ardor of the people of York County had now been aroused to the

highest pitch when they heard that a great battle had been fought at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. Thirteen days after this event a company of York soldiers, under the command of Michael Doudel, with Henry Miller and John Clark as lieutenants, began the march to Boston, where they arrived July 25, being the first troops west of the Hudson and south of Long Island to join the American forces near that city. Although tired and worn by their long march of 500 miles, with undaunted courage, they offered their services to General Washington immediately after their arrival, and asked that they be permitted to capture a British transport on the Charles River. The commander-in-chief commended them for their patriotism, but thought the proposition inexpedient at that time. A few days later Washington detailed them to capture some British sentinels, in order that he might learn from them the enemy's purpose in erecting certain earthworks in front of the American encampment. This daring feat was accomplished by the York County company then commanded by Lieutenant Henry Miller with the loss of one man, Corporal Crnise, a gallant soldier, who lingered for several months in a British prison in London. The trained riflemen from York County succeeded in killing several of the enemy and bringing prisoners to the headquarters of Washington at Cambridge.

The martial spirit was now rife in the town and county of York, for in the fall of 1775 five battalions of militia were organized, commanded respectively by Colonel James Smith, of York; Robert McPherson, of Marsh Creek; Richard McAllister, of Hanover; Colonel William Smith, of Chanceford, and William Rankin, of Newberry township. These battalions were under regular drill and discipline for several months. Near the close of 1775, one company was selected from each battalion and a regiment of "Minute Men" organized, with Richard McAllister, Colonel; Thomas Hartley, Lieutenant-Colonel, and David Grier, Major. Soon afterward a part of this command joined the first expedition for the conquest of Canada.

During this year and the remainder of the Revolution, the spirit of war was constantly impressed upon the people of York by the passage of troops from the southern states to join Washington's Army, and often British prisoners were brought here, or escorted to Frederick, Md., Winchester and other points in Virginia.

Patriotism and Valor of York County Soldiers.

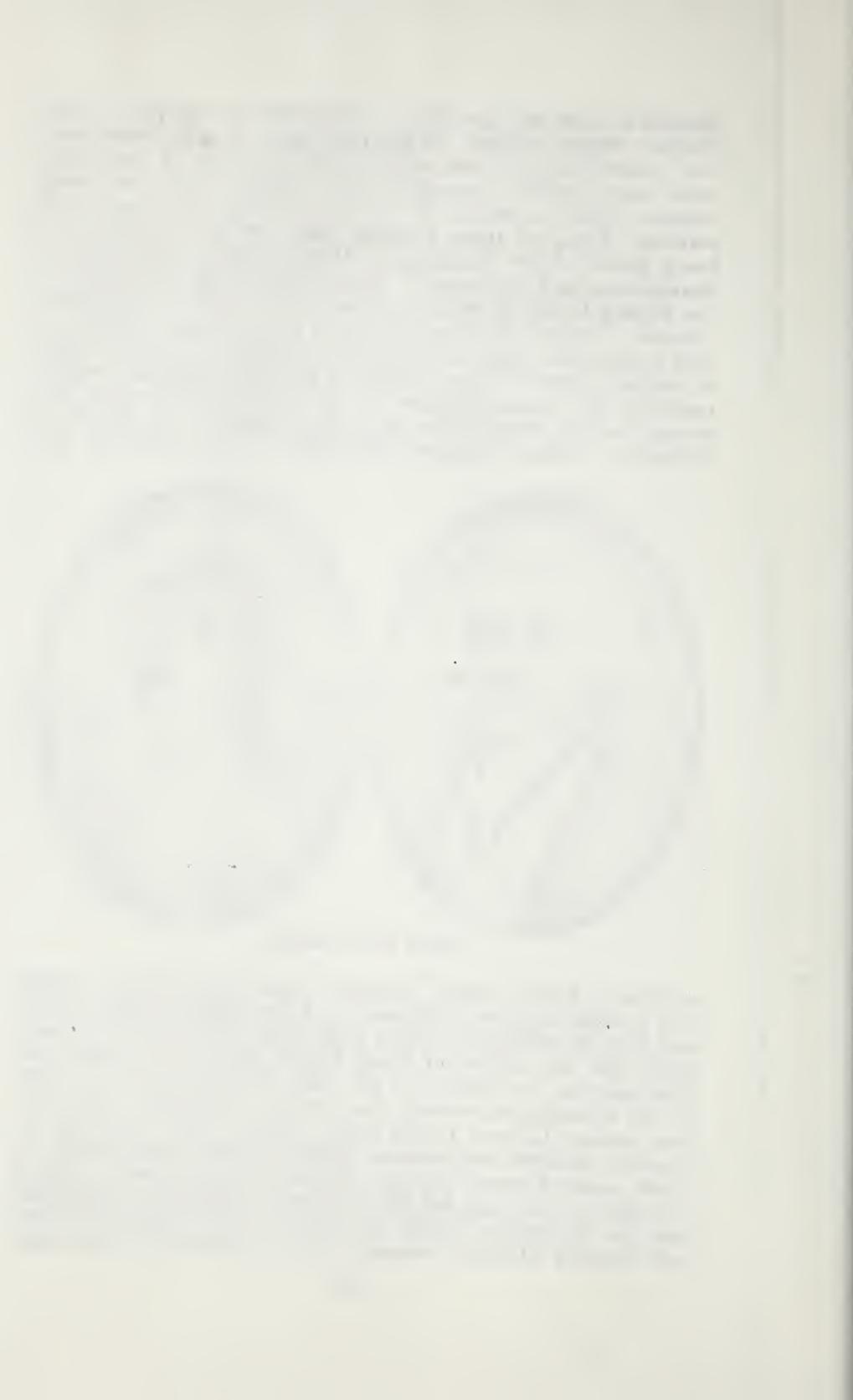
In this brief history of York County, it is impossible to give in detail the part taken by the patriotic men of the town and county in the Revolution. Let it suffice to say that they

showed a valor and patriotism unexcelled in any part of the thirteen original states. In the early part of 1776, there were four armed and equipped companies in the town of York, and about 2,000 militia throughout the county, then including Adams, ready to march to the front if their services were wanted. Many of these soldiers took part in the battles of Long Island, Fort Washington, White Plains, Germantown, Brandywine and Monmouth. James Ewing took command of the Flying Camp in 1776, and rose to the rank of Brigadier-General; Colonel Thomas Hartley, a man of high intellect as well as patriotic valor, led his men to victory on several fields of battle; General Henry Miller, a bold and dashing soldier, received the commendations of the commander-in-chief for saving the left wing of the army from defeat at the Battle of Princeton; Colonel Richard McAllister, after organizing the



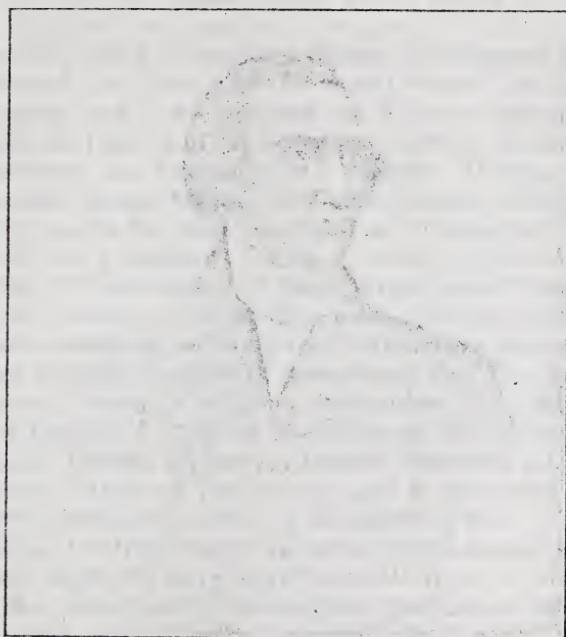
Colonel Hartley and Wife

militia of York County, marched with the regiment, which was conspicuous for its bravery at Long Island, White Plains and Fort Washington; Major John Clark received the highest praise for his success at Long Island, and at the request of Washington, was placed on the staff of General Greene, next to the commander-in-chief, the greatest American soldier of that period; Colonel David Grier, a hero of the campaign to Canada, received two serious wounds at the famous battle of Paoli, under General Wayne; Major Joseph Prowell, with a battalion of 400 men, led the advance of Sullivan's expedition into the Wyoming Valley to drive out the hostile Indians; and Colonel Michael Swope, with a regiment of 400 men,



fought gallantly at Fort Washington, where himself and nearly all of his comrades became prisoners of war. The achievements of these sons of York County, and the gallant soldiers who fought under them, have added lustre to the pages of American history. They won a record for military achievement, worthy of being handed down to future generations.

James Smith, a practicing lawyer at York, became one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His remains now lie in the Presbyterian Church yard on East Market Street. His speeches, while a member of Congress, show that



James Smith

he possessed ability of high order. He died at the advanced age of 92.

Colonel Hartley, famed as a soldier, also represented York County in Congress for nearly twelve years, and was the first Pennsylvania lawyer to be admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States.

York, the Nation's Capital.

To avoid being captured by the British, the government documents and the small amount of money then in the treasury, were sent to Bethlehem in wagons, carefully guarded

by two regiments of troops. The members of Congress, themselves, from the thirteen original states, started on horseback for Bethlehem, where they spent Sunday, and attended services at the Moravian church. The following day they proceeded toward Lancaster. Only one day's session was held in Lancaster when it was decided that "the Susquehanna should flow between Congress and the enemy," and it adjourned to York, which then contained 286 houses and about 1,500 inhabitants.

Coming up the road from Wright's Ferry on one calm September afternoon of the eventful year of 1777, were these illustrious men, whose acts and deeds during this dark period of the Revolution have given lustre to the pages of American history.

Among this band of patriots whose intelligence and foresight astonished the nations of the world, were John Hancock, Samuel Adams and John Adams, of Massachusetts; James Duane, William Duer and Gouverneur Morris, of New York; Roger Sherman, of Connecticut; Robert Morris, General Roberdeau and James Smith, of Pennsylvania; Charles Carroll, of Maryland; Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Harrison (ancestor of two presidents), and Francis Lightfoot Lee, of Virginia; Dr. Witherspoon, of New Jersey, and Henry Laurens, of South Carolina. These men were members of Congress at York, and twenty-six of them the year before, had appended their names to that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence. When Congress assembled in York on the first day of October, 1777, in the historic old Court House, which stood in Centre Square, it beheld the chief cities of the country in the hands of the enemy and a shattered and dispirited army retreating before a conquering foe. The battle of Brandywine had just ended in favor of the invading British army, whose numbers were nearly double those of the Americans. In the meantime, Washington had been invested by Congress, with extraordinary powers, and soon afterward took up his winter quarters at Valley Forge.

The little band of patriots, which assembled daily in the Court House in York, had increased its membership, by the arrival of newly elected delegates in October. It sat with closed doors. None but the members of Congress and occasionally a few government officials, were allowed to hear the debates on the momentous questions that engaged their attention. In a building at one corner of Centre Square, Michael Hillegas, Treasurer of the United States, kept the accounts of the government. In the office of James Smith, on the west side of South George Street, John Adams presided over the Board of War, whose duty it was to administer to the wants of the army, the same as the War Department of to-day. The

President of Congress was John Hancock, of Massachusetts, who was one of the wealthiest men in the United States. He rented a house owned by Col. Michael Swope, on the south side of West Market Street, near Centre Square. As the executive head of the nation he lived in considerable style, and his household expenses were paid by the government. All the other members were required to pay their own expenses and received a small annual salary paid by the states they represented. Early in November John Hancock resigned as President of Congress, and Henry Laurens, of South Carolina, was chosen his successor.

Of the delegates to Continental Congress during the entire period of the Revolution none were more zealous in legislating for the prosecution of the war than Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts. He was a man of lofty patriotism and unbounded energy. The English government blamed John Hancock and Samuel Adams more than any others for the origin of the war, and a reward of \$25,000 was offered for the capture of either of them. Both Hancock and Adams, if ever captured, were to be denied pardon for their alleged treason to the mother country. With Adams as the leader of Congress while in York, the struggle for liberty was simply a matter of life or death. Success in establishing freedom would send him down to posterity, honored by all future generations; failure pointed to the prison cell and the ignominy of a rebel doomed to the scaffold. Everything seemed dark and gloomy during the early days of October, 1777, and some of the members of Congress were almost ready to give up the struggle in despair and accept the overtures of peace by the British government.

Washington had not yet loomed up as the dominant personality of the Revolution. About this time John Adams made the following entry in his diary:

"The prospect is chilling on every side, gloomy, dark, melancholy and dispirited. When and where will light come from? Shall we have good news from Europe? Shall we hear of a blow struck by Gates against Burgoyne? Is there a possibility that Washington may yet defeat Howe? Is there a possibility that McDougall and Dickinson shall destroy the British detachment in New Jersey? If Philadelphia is lost, is the cause of Independence lost?" Then he continues: "No, the cause is not lost. Heaven grant us one great soul. One leading mind would extricate the best cause from the ruins that seem to await it. We have as good a cause as ever was fought for. One active, masterly capacity would bring order out of this confusion and save our country."

Philip Livingstone, a delegate from the state of New York, died while Congress was in session in York. His re-

mains were first buried in Zion Reformed churchyard, and were later moved to Prospect Hill cemetery, where they now rest.

Samuel Adams' Great Speech.

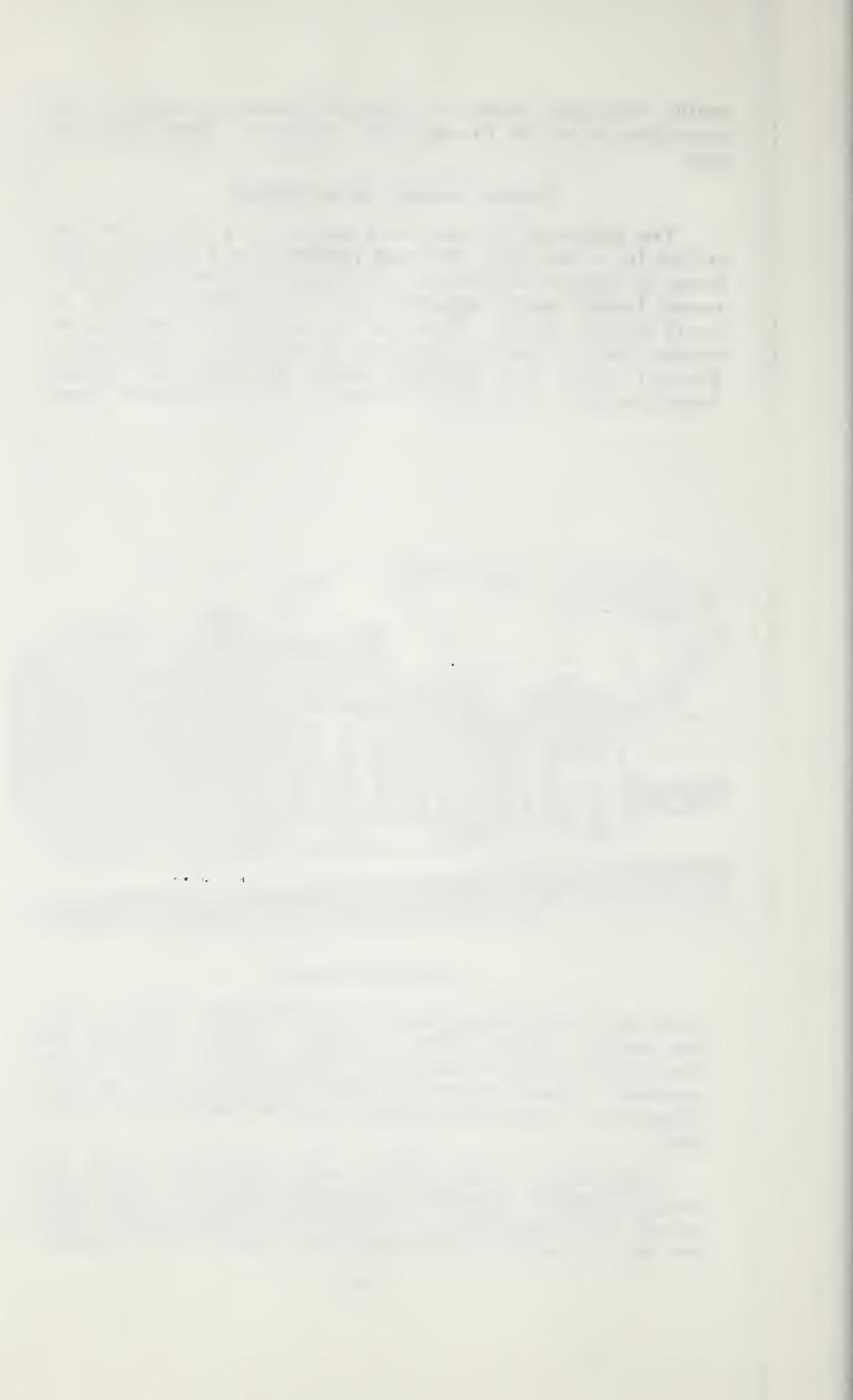
The affairs of the new born nation for a time were controlled by a few men, who met regularly in a caucus at the home of General Roberdeau, of Pennsylvania, who lived in a rented house nearly opposite Christ Lutheran Church on South George Street. Many of the leaders in Congress, including Henry Laurens, Benjamin Harrison, Dr. Witherspoon, Richard Henry Lee, Elbridge Gerry and John and Samuel Adams lodged in this house. It was in the law office of James



James Smith's Residence

Smith on South George Street on one October night of 1777, that Samuel Adams called a caucus. After obtaining the views of the different members, some of whom were very despondent, Samuel Adams rose and delivered one of the most eloquent and impressive speeches in American history, as follows:

"Gentlemen: Your spirits seem oppressed with the weight of public calamities, and your sadness of countenance reveals your disquietude. A patriot may grieve at the disasters of his country, but he will never despair of the common-



wealth. Our affairs are said to be desperate, but we are not without hope and not without courage. The eyes of the people of this country are upon us here, and the tone of their feeling is regulated by ours. If we as delegates in Congress give up in despair, and grow desperate, public confidence will be destroyed and American liberty will be no more.

"But we are not driven to such straits. Though fortune has been unpropitious, our conditions are not desperate; our burdens though grievous, can still be borne; our losses though great, can be retrieved. Through the darkness that shrouds our prosperity, the ark of safety is visible.

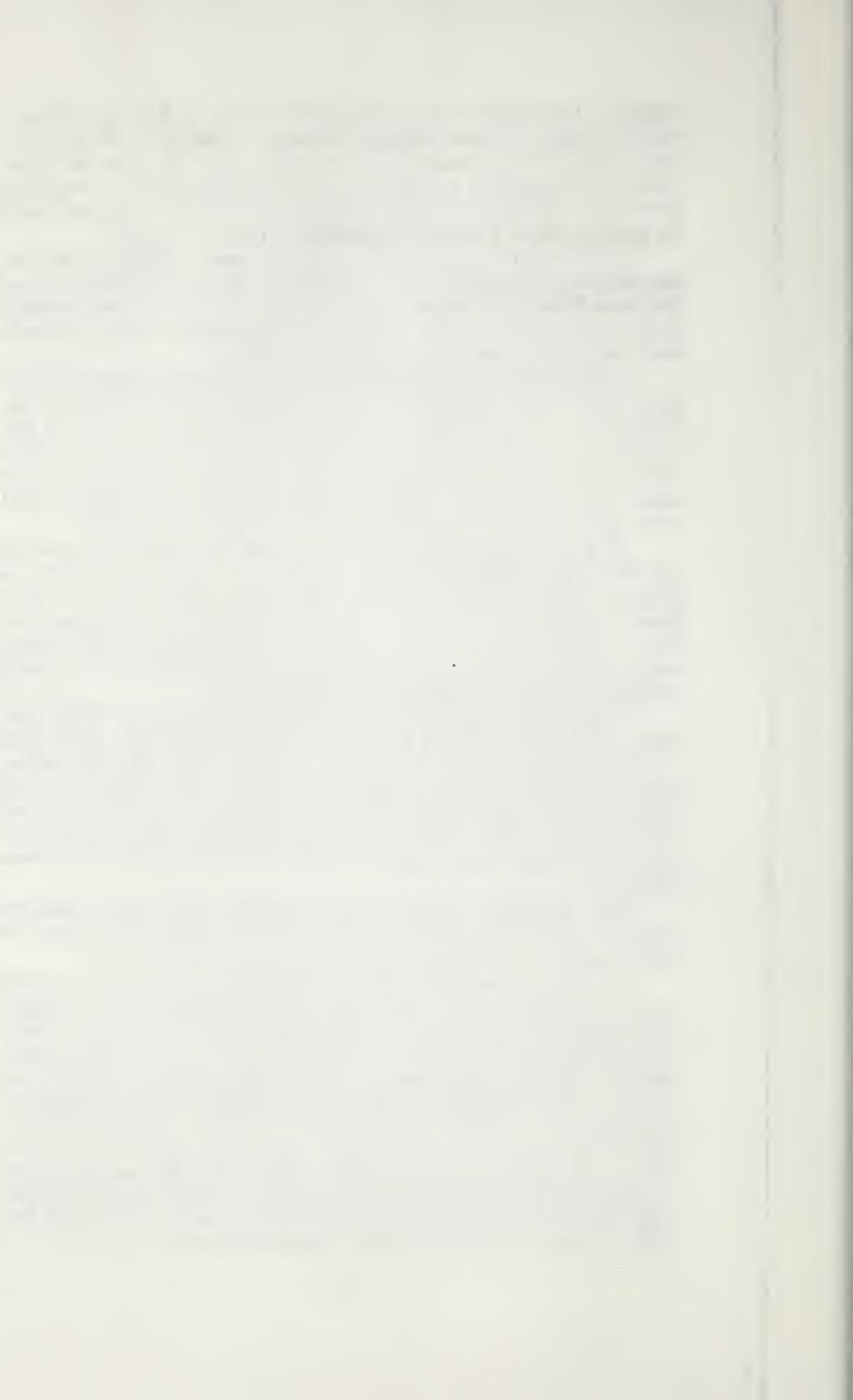
"Despondency, gentlemen, becomes not the dignity of our cause, nor the character of the Nation's representatives in Congress. Let us then be aroused and evince a spirit of patriotism that shall inspire the people with confidence in us, in themselves and in the cause of our Country. Let us show a spirit that will induce them to persevere in this struggle, until our rights shall be established and our liberty secured.

"We have proclaimed to the world our determination to die free men, rather than live slaves; we have appealed to Heaven for the justice of our cause and in the God of battle have we placed our trust. We have looked to Providence for help and protection in the past; we must appeal to the same source in the future, for the Almighty Powers from above will sustain us in this struggle for independence.

"There have been times since the opening of this war when we were reduced almost to distress, but the great arm of Omnipotence has raised us up. Let us still rely for assistance upon Him who is mighty to save. We shall not be abandoned by the Powers above so long as we act worthy of aid and protection. The darkest hour is just before the dawn. Good news may soon reach us from the army and from across the sea."

The patriotic fervor of the speaker on this occasion thrilled the small audience and gave them renewed energy in the passage of legislation to aid in carrying on the war.

It was not long after this event that a relative of General Israel Putnam, one of the heroes of the Revolution, brought to Congress the glad news of the defeat of the British at Saratoga by General Gates and the surrender of the entire army under General Burgoyne. A few days later the official account of this brilliant victory and conquest was brought to Congress by Colonel Wilkinson, a member of General Gates' staff. He spent one day before Congress explaining the details of the battle and surrender. The next day was given to a general rejoicing in the town of York. This victory at Saratoga was the Gettysburg of the Revolution, for it turned the tide of affairs in favor of the American cause.



First National Thanksgiving.

President Laurens appointed Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts, and General Roberdeau, of Pennsylvania, a committee of Congress to draft a national proclamation of Thanksgiving, the first in the history of the American Republic. This historic document was written by that eminent Virginian, Richard Henry Lee, who less than two years before had moved in Congress at Philadelphia, that "these United States are and of right ought to be free and independent States," and himself became one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The proclamation is remarkable in language and thought. Besides breathing forth a spirit of lofty patriotism, it also contains a deep and fervent religious sentiment.

The following is the proclamation in full:

"Forasmuch as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God, to acknowledge with gratitude their obligations for benefits received, and to implore such further blessings as they stand in need of; and it having pleased Him in His abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of His common Providence, but also to smile upon us in the prosecution of a just and necessary war for the defense and establishment of our inalienable rights and liberties; particularly in that He has been pleased in so great a measure to prosper the means used for the support of our troops and to crown our arms with most signal success. It is therefore recommended to the legislature or executive powers of these United States to set apart Thursday, the 18th of December next, for solemn Thanksgiving and praise; that with one heart and one voice, the people of this country may express the grateful feelings of their hearts and consecrate themselves to the service of the Divine Benefactor; and that together with their sincere acknowledgments, they may join in a penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favor; and their humble and earnest supplication may be that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance; that it may please Him graciously, to grant His blessings on the governments of these States respectively and prosper the Public Council of the whole United States; to inspire our commanders, both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude, which may render them fit instruments under the Providence of Almighty God to secure for these United States, the greatest of all blessings, independence and peace; that it may please Him to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labor of the husbandman, that our land may yield its increase; to take the schools and seminaries of education,

so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under His nurturing hand, and to prosper the means of religion, for promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom, which consists of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. It is further recommended that servile labor and such recreation as at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this appointment on so solemn an occasion."

This proclamation was adopted by Congress, October 30th, and two days later the President of Congress wrote the following letter to each of the Governors of the thirteen States then in the Union:

York in Pennsylvania, November 1, 1777.

Sir:—The arms of the United States of America having been blessed in the present campaign with remarkable success, Congress has resolved to recommend that Thursday, December 18th next, be set apart to be observed by all inhabitants throughout the United States for a general Thanksgiving to Almighty God, and I hereby transmit to you the enclosed extract from the minutes of Congress for that purpose.

Your Excellency will be pleased to take the necessary measures for carrying this resolve into effect in the State in which you reside. You will likewise find enclosed certified copy of the minutes which will show your Excellency the authority under which I have the honor of addressing you.

I am with great esteem and regard, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

HENRY LAURENS,
President of Congress.

The Conway Cabal.

The story of the Conway Cabal is recorded in all works of American history. It was a conspiracy to remove Washington from the head of the army, and put General Horatio Gates in his place. It obtained its name from Thomas Conway, an Irishman who had fought in the French army and during the Revolution volunteered his services to aid the Americans in their war for independence. Congress had promised to promote him to a higher command in our army, but Washington opposed this plan. This was the cause of his opposition to the commander-in-chief.

The real cause of this conspiracy was a party faction in Congress also opposed to Washington. Among the men who joined this faction were some of the most noted patriots of that period. Washington had not yet loomed up as a dominating personality of the Revolution. He had won the battle



of Trenton, but had been defeated at Long Island, White Plains, in 1776, and at Brandywine and Germantown in the fall of 1777. It was the defeat at the last two places that caused Congress to leave Philadelphia and come to York, as a place for protection and safety. At this time the opposition to Washington in Congress had increased to so high a degree that it was feared, at one time, a committee would be appointed to go to his camp at Valley Forge and report against him as a competent person to command the armies and lead them to victory.

The friends of Washington, in Congress, now agreed to defend him and prevent his removal from the army. Some new delegates arrived who prevented the passing of a resolution appointing a committee to go to the headquarters at Valley Forge.

It was General Horatio Gates, of Virginia, who won the great victory at Saratoga, and a few days later captured about 6,000 British and Hessian soldiers under Sir John Burgoyne, an officer of high rank and station in the English army, before he had come to America. It was Burgoyne's intention to move down the Hudson River and separate the New England States from the Middle and Southern States. Had this been accomplished it would have prevented the people of the New England States from communicating with Continental Congress, or with the armies in the field.

The victory at Saratoga made Gates the hero of the hour. He was invited, by Congress, to come to York and become President of the Board of War, which was the directing power of the army, the same as the War Department under our government at present. When Gates came here his friends in Congress and the officers of the army in York were enthusiastic in praise of his military fame. Mrs. Gates, and her son, Robert, had come here some months before. She was a woman of English birth, and at the death of her father had inherited the sum of \$400,000, which made her the wealthiest woman in the United States. When General Gates came here he lived in considerable style. He was appointed to occupy a high position, and he was fawned and flattered by all his admirers. Mrs. Gates entertained all of her husband's friends. They first occupied quarters in a hotel on the south side of West Market Street, near Center Square. Later they rented a house on the north side of West Market, near Beaver Street. He remained in York about three months, occupying the position as President of the Board of War. Early in February General Lafayette, the youthful patriot, from France, was invited to York for the purpose of receiving the appointment to command an army of invasion to Canada. Washington opposed this project, but Lafayette consented to come to visit Congress and receive instructions, promising Washington

his loyalty and patriotism. Soon after his arrival here he was invited to be the guest of General Gates and his accomplished wife. A banquet was given in his honor by the General, and after it was ended, toasts were offered to all the interests of the American army, except that of General Washington, as Commander-in-Chief. Lafayette seemed to be uncomfortable amid such strange surroundings. After the toasts had all been given, his commission to command the expedition to Canada was handed to him at the table, by General Gates. He arose from his chair and said to the banqueters: "I have listened to all of the toasts with eager interest and I appreciate the compliments showered upon me, but there was one toast entirely forgotten, and now let us all drink to the health of General Washington, the head of the American army. May he bring this war of Independence to a successful conclusion and live long, as the greatest of all Americans."

There is nothing definitely known of the effect of this toast upon the enemies of Washington, except a small reference made by Lafayette in his Memoirs, published thirty-seven years later. In this he says: "After I had offered this toast I looked around the table and saw the faces of the opponents of Washington redden with shame. Some of them put the cup to their lips and barely tasted of the wine, while others were entirely confused."

With a shrug of the shoulders and a hasty good-bye he left the room, and thus ended the so-called Conway Cabal.

Soon afterward he left York, went to Albany, but found no army ready to move into Canada. Lafayette then returned to the army encamped at Valley Forge. Many of the opponents of Washington now became his friends, even General Conway denied that there ever was a plan set afoot to remove Washington from command.

Sometime later he fought a duel with General Cadwallader. He was shot in his mouth, the bullet passing through his neck. For several days it was thought the wound would prove fatal. During this time he wrote a plaintive letter to Washington denying that he was ever opposed to the General as the head of the army. Conway went to England where he died in obscurity.

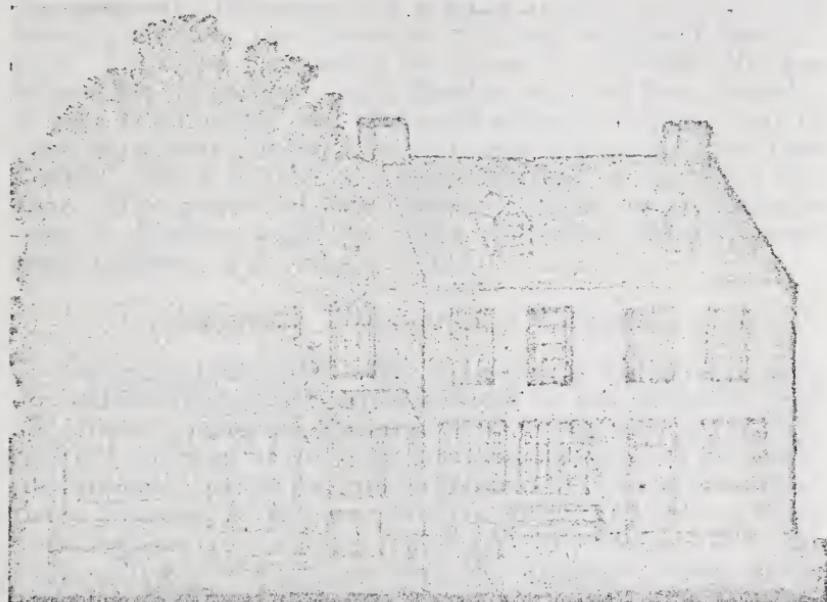
General Gates afterward took command of the army in the South but met with disaster in the battle with Lord Cornwallis, and General Greene took his place as the head of the southern army.

United States Treasury Building.

At the northeast corner of Centre Square on the present site of the Spahr building, for nearly a century there stood an historic building. During the Revolution, this house was

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owned and occupied by Archibald McLean, who had been one of the most prominent citizens west of the Susquehanna in colonial days. He was a land surveyor for the Penns in his early manhood and also held several county offices. He assisted Mason and Dixon, the English surveyors who were sent to this country to run a line between the provinces of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. As McLean was a skilled mathematician and a practical surveyor of large experience, in 1767-8, with the assistance of four of his brothers, he surveyed most of the land from the Susquehanna River west to the Allegheny Mountains, where their work was stopped by hostile Indians. During the war for Independence, Archibald McLean was an ardent supporter of the patriot cause. When



United States Treasury Building 1777-1778

Congress removed to York, in the latter part of September, 1777, and during the entire nine months of the session held here, the home of Archibald McLean was occupied by the Board of Treasury. In a vault in the cellar of the McLean building the money belonging to the United States Treasury was kept. It did not only contain the depreciated Continental currency, but a considerable amount of silver. This valuable treasure, amounting to about \$600,000, was brought to York in the spring of 1778. The money had been sent to America from France as a loan to the United States Government, then struggling for independence. The vessel which brought this

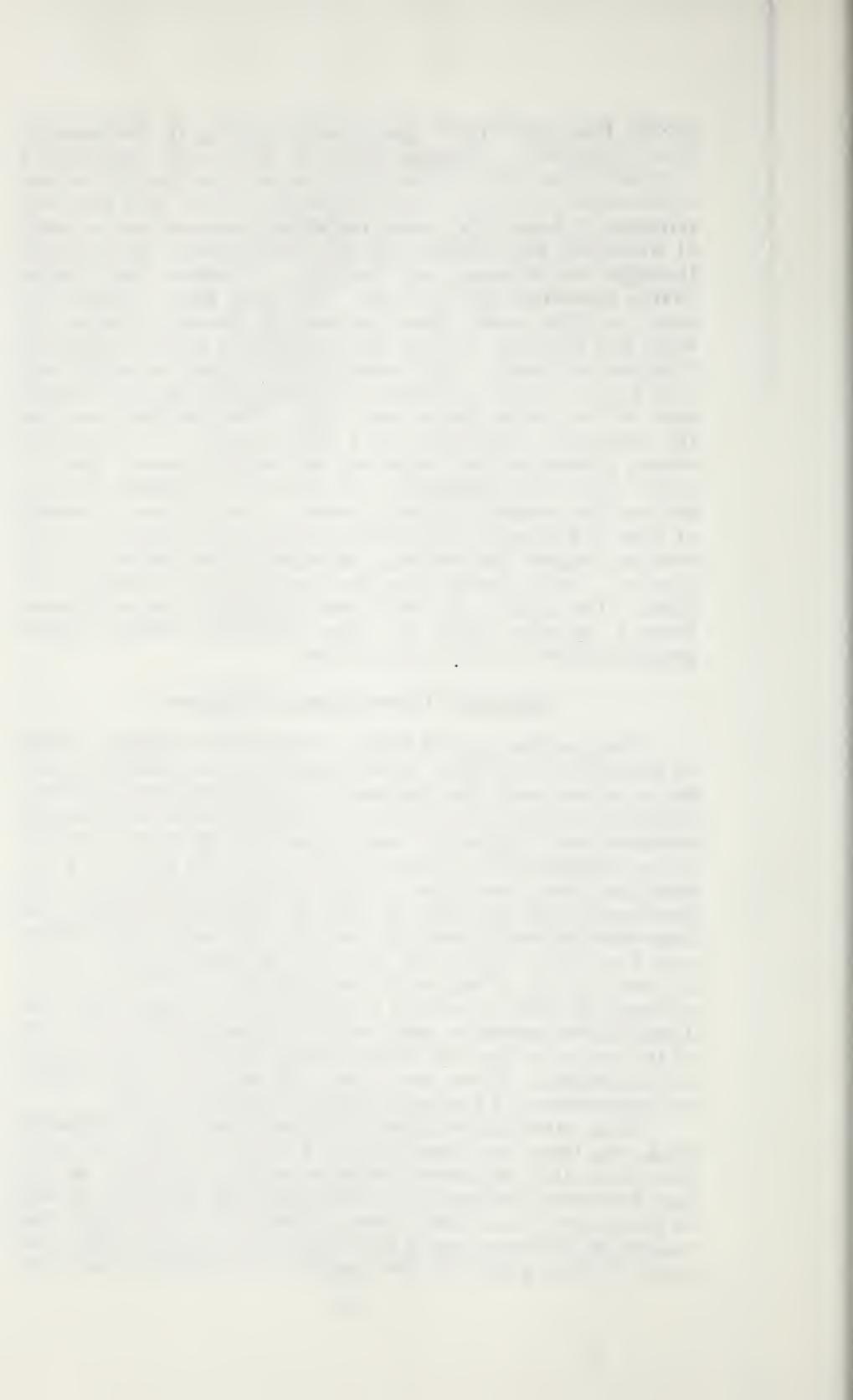


money from the French government landed at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Captain James B. Frye, who had been a member of the Boston Tea Party, was entrusted with the care of the money to convey it to Congress at York, with the compliments of Louis XVI, who had already entered into a treaty of friendship and alliance with the United States government, through the influence of Benjamin Franklin, the United States commissioner at Paris. The four horse wagon that conveyed this money from Portsmouth through Boston, Albany and Reading, to York was guarded by a full company of Continental troops. The money arrived here in safety and was put in charge of Michael Hillegas, who had been treasurer of the United States since 1776. This building was also the temporary depository for a large amount of Continental money printed at York under act of Congress passed April 11, 1778. After the Revolution the home of Archibald McLean became the property of Jacob Barnitz, who had been wounded at Fort Washington, and afterward served for thirty years or more as register and recorder, and clerk of the courts for York County. Jacob Barnitz was the son-in-law of Archibald McLean. The picture of this historic building was reproduced from a drawing made by Miss Catherine Barnitz, great-granddaughter of Archibald McLean.

Important Transactions of Congress.

Congress had passed while in session at York the Articles of Confederation which, when adopted by the sufficient number of states, made the Declaration of Independence a reality; received the news of the great and decisive battle of Saratoga; commissioned Lafayette a major-general in the army; received Baron Steuben, the military chieftain from the Court of Frederick the Great, made him a major-general and sent him to the headquarters of the army to drill the American troops in the improved tactics of that day; received the news from Benjamin Franklin at Paris that the King of France and his country had agreed to help us in our struggle for Independence; received the first of several contributions of money from the French Government to carry on the war and received the news of the arrival of the first French troops and fleet that came to our assistance. These are a few, but not all, of the important transactions of Congress while in session at York.

At no other place during the Revolution, except Philadelphia, was there any legislation by Congress in any way comparable to that transacted while in session at York. It is a fact, however, that sessions of this body were held for one day in Lancaster, Pa.; a short time at Princeton, N. J.; about two months in Baltimore and a brief period at Annapolis, Md. At none of these places do the journals of Congress record the



passage of any legislation or the transaction of any business for the prosecution of the war in any degree commensurate with that done at York during the winter of 1777 and 1778.

War of 1812.

The war of 1812, which brought so much honor and glory to the American arms on sea and land, aroused the patriotism of York county and soon after the opening of hostilities there were numerous enlistments in the county for the defense of the coast and the northern frontier. But when the British, under General Ross, landed on the shores of the Chesapeake, and August 25, 1814, captured Washington city and destroyed the public buildings, President Madison issued a proclamation for more troops. Governor Snyder, of Pennsylvania, responded at once, and notified the organized military companies of the state to prepare for marching orders. The Pennsylvania militia from the counties of Chester, Lancaster, York, Lebanon, Berks, Dauphin, Cumberland and Schuylkill, in all 5,000 men, were sworn into the service and rendezvoused at York under the command of Major General Watson. Some of these soldiers remained in the service from September 1, 1814, to March 1, 1815, and during that time were stationed at York and at points between York and Baltimore. Most of the time they were in camp on the York Common. In the meantime the York Volunteers, a noted military company under command of Captain Michael H. Spangler, 100 men, marched to Baltimore, starting August 29, 1814, when the news came that General Ross was on his way to Baltimore. When Captain Spangler's company arrived at Baltimore it was attached to the Fifth Maryland regiment and took part in the famous battle of North Point, near Baltimore, where two of the company were captured and several wounded. They won high honors for their courage and bravery. A company from the lower end of York County, under command of Captain Colvin, and two companies from Hanover, one under command of Captain Frederick Metzgar, and one under Captain John Bair, also marched to Baltimore and took part in the engagement. The death of General Ross and the retreat of the British caused the alarm to subside, and the war soon afterward ended with the famous victory of Jackson at New Orleans.

The Civil War.

The bombardment of Fort Sumter, April 12, 1861, was followed three days later by the proclamation of President Lincoln, calling for 75,000 troops. This aroused the patriotic ardor of the people all over the North. When Governor Curtin made a requisition for the organized military of the state,



two companies from York, the Worth Infantry, under command of Captain Thomas A. Ziegle, and the York Rifles, under Captain George Hay, immediately responded. On Saturday evening, April 20, they received orders, and at 11 o'clock at night left on a special train toward Baltimore. They were at first stationed in squads at various bridges along the railroad as far south as Cockeysville, Maryland. In the meantime the First, Second and Third Regiments of Pennsylvania volunteers for the three months' service from various cities and towns of the state passed through York and encamped at Cockeysville. On April 26, two Pittsburg regiments arrived in York, and Camp Scott was organized, which by May 7 had nearly 6,000 men. The York Rifles became Company K of the Second regiment, which was organized April 21. Worth Infantry became Company A of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Regiment. Three other York County companies were assigned to this regiment. They were the Marion Rifles, of Hanover, Captain H. G. Myers; the Hanover Infantry, Captain Cyrus Diller, and the York Voltiguers, Captain Theodore D. Cochran. When the regiment was organized, May 3, Thomas A. Ziegle was chosen colonel. The Sixteenth Regiment afterward went to the front as part of Colonel Miles' Brigade of the Second Division of Patterson's army in Shenandoah Valley.

Thus, it will be seen, that York County promptly responded to her country's call in time of peril with the same patriotic ardor she had shown in the Revolution and in the War of 1812. The gallant Eighty-seventh Regiment in the three years' service was composed almost entirely of York County men. Numerous other regiments had a large representation in their ranks, including the First and Twelfth Pennsylvania Reserves, the Seventy-sixth, Ninety-first, Ninety-third, One Hundred and Seventh, One Hundred and Third, One Hundred and Thirtieth, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth, One Hundred and Eighty-seventh, One Hundred and Ninety-fourth, Two Hundredth, Two Hundred and Seventh, Two Hundred and Ninth Regiments and the Eleventh and Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry. These regiments all took an active part in the war and served gallantly in many hard-fought battles.

The great battle of Gettysburg, which decided the destiny of the Republic and the perpetuation of the Union, was fought on soil for half a century part of York County, and the rumble and the roar of the cannonading were heard by the citizens of York. The extreme right of Lee's army, a division of Ewell's corps, under command of General Early, entered the present limits of this county June 27, 1863, and encamped for the night in the beautiful Paradise Valley, ten miles northwest of York.

1990). In addition, the results of the present study indicate that the effect of the *lutein* supplement on the visual performance of children is not limited to the improvement of visual acuity.

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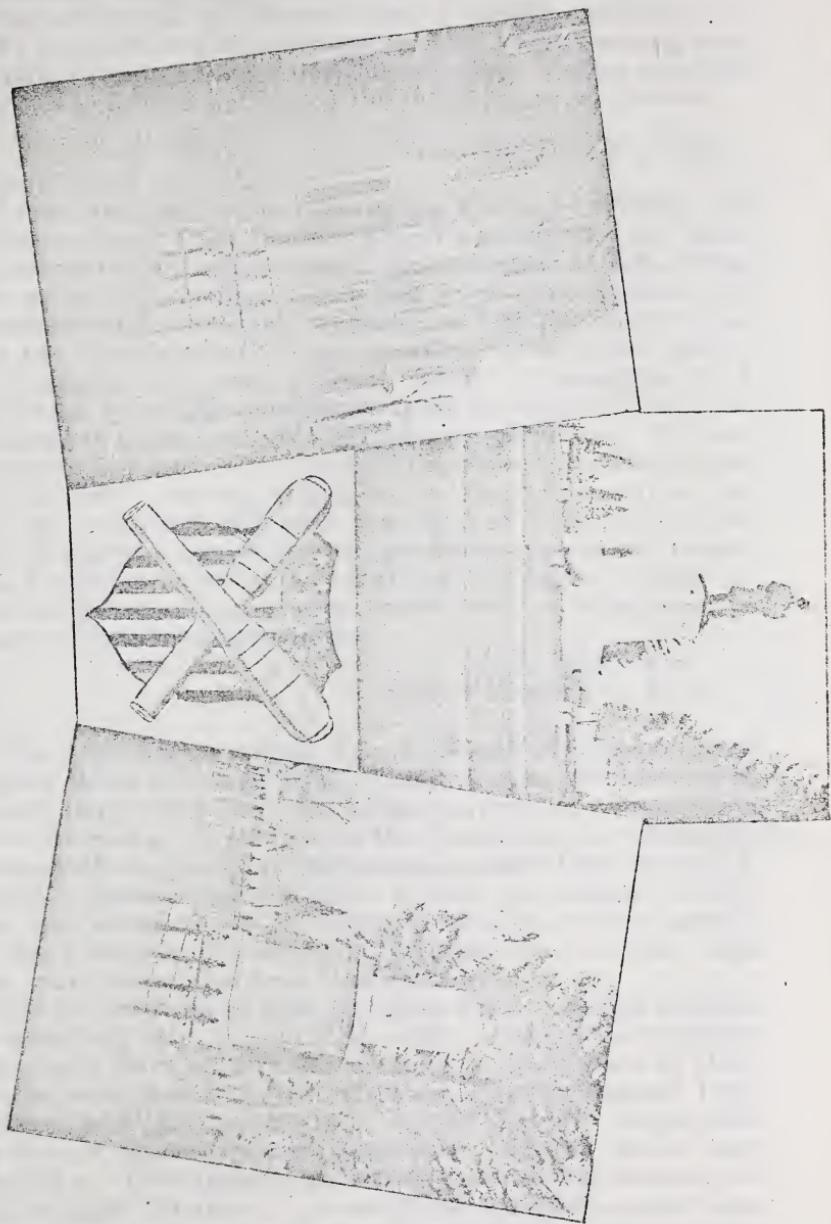
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General Early and his staff slept at a house in Paradise Township, afterwards owned by George W. Trimmer, about three and one-half miles east of East Berlin. General John B. Gordon, of Georgia, commanding a brigade which led the advance, encamped about four miles south of Early at Farmer's post-office, along the Gettysburg turnpike. He slept at the house of Jacob S. Altland. At this place he was visited by Chief Burgess David Small, A. B. Farquhar, W. L. Small, Colonel George Hay and Thomas White, who were authorized by the Committee of Safety to enter into terms for the Confederate occupation of York. There were then only about 300 Federal troops in the town, and as they could make no defense were ordered to retreat to Wrightsville. An agreement was entered into by which no private property was to be destroyed. General Early called at Gordon's headquarters later in the evening, confirmed the agreement made by his subordinate and gave Gordon orders how to enter York. It was Sunday morning, June 28, at 10 o'clock, just as the church bells were ringing that Gordon's brigade of 2,500 men came up West Market Street, and took down the American flag floating in Center Square and passed on through town toward Wrightsville. The entire Confederate forces comprising the brigades under Generals Gordon, Hayes, Smith and Avery, numbered about 9,000 men. General Early took up his headquarters in the Sheriff's office in the Court House and on the following day, June 29, he made a requisition for provisions and articles of clothing and one hundred thousand dollars. Prominent business men got their heads together, raised \$28,000 and turned it over to the Confederate chieftain. It was not easy to raise the entire amount at once, as the bank deposits had been taken to Philadelphia some days before. Early then threatened to burn the car shops and the depot buildings unless the balance of the money was forthcoming. The local railroads were then in the hands of the government, and some of the car shops were making cars for transportation of troops and munitions of war. General Early, therefore sent a squad of North Carolina troops to apply the torch to them. Early and the chief burgess, who was importuning him not to destroy the buildings, went to the depot. They were followed by a delegation of prominent citizens. Upon arriving there Philip A. Small stepped up to the Confederate chieftain and said: "General, if you will not burn these shops and this depot, I will give you my draft on New York, tomorrow, for \$50,000."

"I will give you my answer presently," he responded. "At this juncture," said General Early to the writer at his home in Lynchburg, Virginia, in 1891, "I looked up the street and saw a Confederate courier galloping toward me. I walked away from the crowd and received the message which was

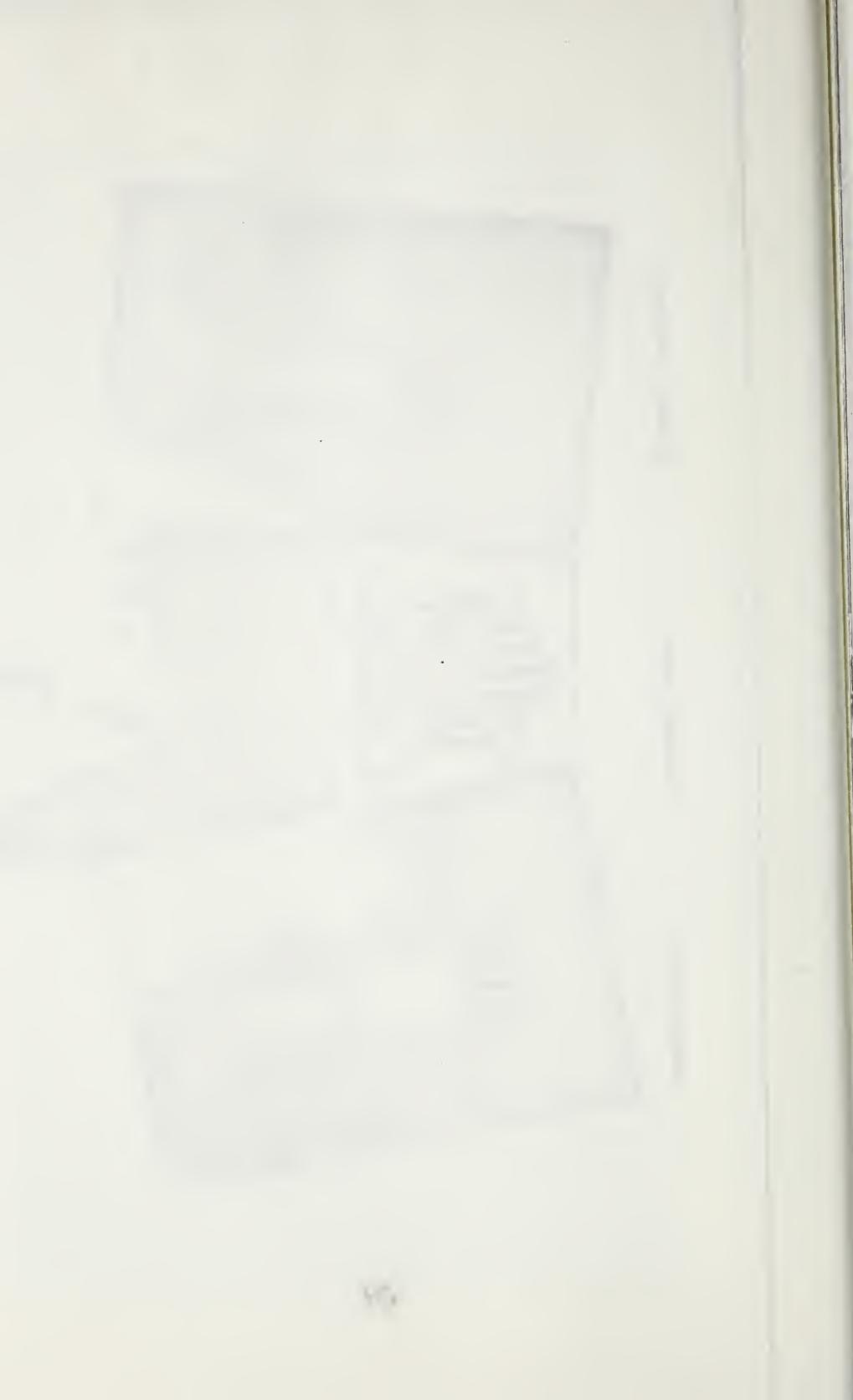


Livingstone's Monument



Soldiers' Monument

Smith's Monument



from my corps commander, General Ewell, then at Carlisle. It ordered me to retreat to Gettysburg, as the Potomac Army was moving toward that town. I then returned to the depot, told the delegation of citizens that I would consider Mr. Small's proposition till tomorrow morning, well knowing that we would be out of town early the next day. I then returned to my headquarters and issued the following proclamation:

"York, Pa., June 30, 1863.

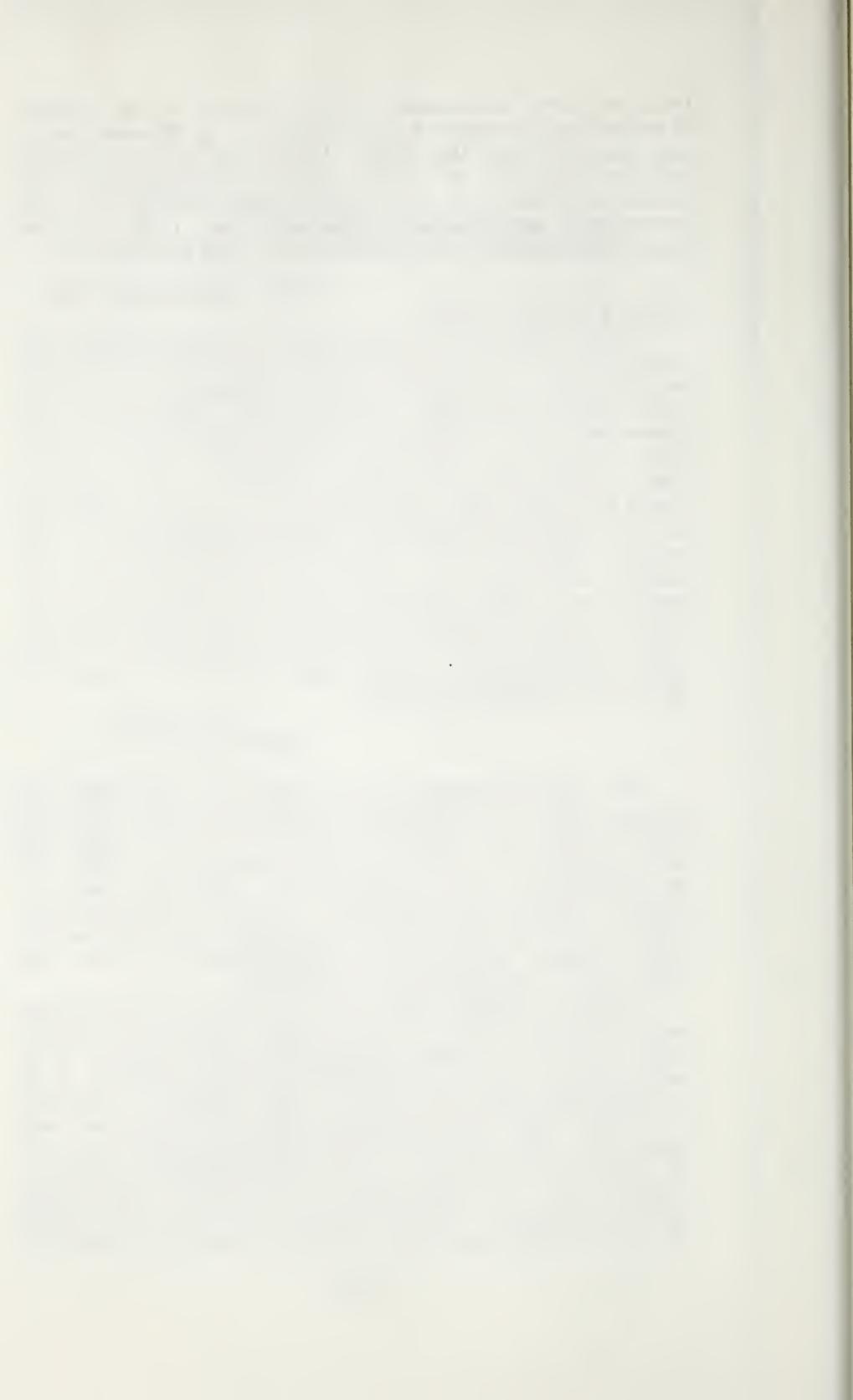
To the Citizens of York:—

I have abstained from burning the railroad buildings and car shops of your town because after examination I am satisfied the safety of the town would be endangered; and, acting in the spirit of humanity, which has ever characterized my government and its military authorities, I do not desire to involve the innocent in the same punishment with the guilty. Had I applied the torch without regard to consequences I would have been fully vindicated as an act of just retaliation for the many authorized acts of barbarity perpetrated by your own army upon our soil. But we do not war upon women and children, and I trust the treatment you have met with at the hands of my soldiers will open your eyes to the monstrous iniquity of the war waged by your government upon the people of the Confederate States, and that you will make an effort to shake off the revolting tyranny under which it is apparent to all you are yourselves groaning.

J. A. EARLY,
Major-General, C. S. A."

The nearest approach to New York and Philadelphia that any part of the Southern army reached was on the evening of June 28, 1863, when Gordon's brigade arrived at Wrightsville and exchanged a few shots with the Pennsylvania militia, and the famous City Troop of Philadelphia, under Hon. Samuel J. Randall. Gordon was sent there to seize the railroad bridge, which was set on fire by the Union troops, so it would not fall into the hands of the enemy. Wrightsville was the high water mark of the Southern Confederacy.

On the morning of June 30, while Early with his division was marching out the Paradise valley toward Gettysburg, there was a fierce cavalry engagement on the streets of Hanover, between 6,000 Confederate troops under General J. E. B. Stuart, and 5,000 cavalrymen under General Kilpatrick. The former was thirty-one years old, and the latter only twenty-six. The famous Generals Custer and Farnsworth, on the Union side, Fitzhugh Lee and Wade Hampton on the Confederate side, were subordinates in command in this memorable cavalry fight. Stuart's advance surprised and attacked the rear of Kilpatrick's forces while they were dismounted in



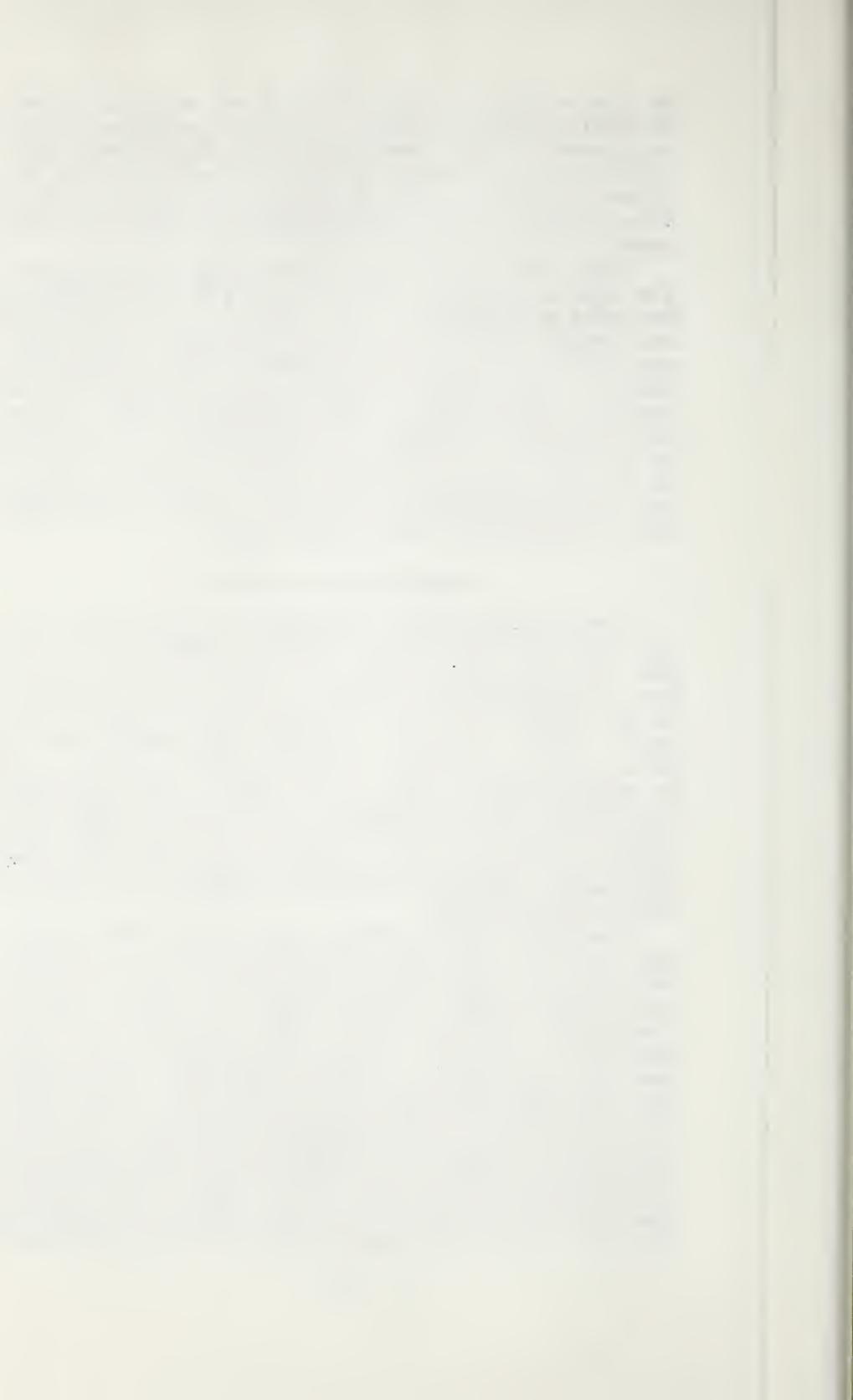
the Centre Square of the town receiving refreshments from the hands of patriotic citizens. A striking coincidence of this engagement, is that it took place on the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the town by Colonel Richard McAllister, a patriot of the Revolution, near whose tomb in Mount Olivet cemetery, the Confederates planted their batteries.

Kilpatrick defeated Stuart and drove him out of Hanover. The latter not knowing of Early's retreat toward Gettysburg, proceeded to Jefferson and from thence to Dover, Dillsburg and Carlisle, and did not arrive at Gettysburg till the afternoon of the second day of the battle. "The engagement at Hanover," said General Pleasanton, who commanded all the cavalry of Meade's army in the campaign of 1863, "disconcerted the plans of Stuart, and saved the day at Gettysburg, for Lee did not have his cavalry when he needed it most on the first and second days of the battle." The battle of Hanover was the beginning of the great conflict at Gettysburg which took place the following three days.

Spanish-American War.

The battleship Maine, belonging to the American navy, was blown up in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, February 15, 1898. By this explosion nearly 200 American sailors lost their lives. The government of Spain refused to make reparation for this calamity and war was declared by the United States against Spain. Congress recognized the independence of Cuba, and three days later President McKinley issued a call for 125,000 troops to serve for two years or during the war. In response to this call Company A, of York, commanded by Captain Adam Garber, and Company I, of Wrightsville, commanded by Captain J. H. Drenning, enlisted in the United States army. Both these companies belonged to the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

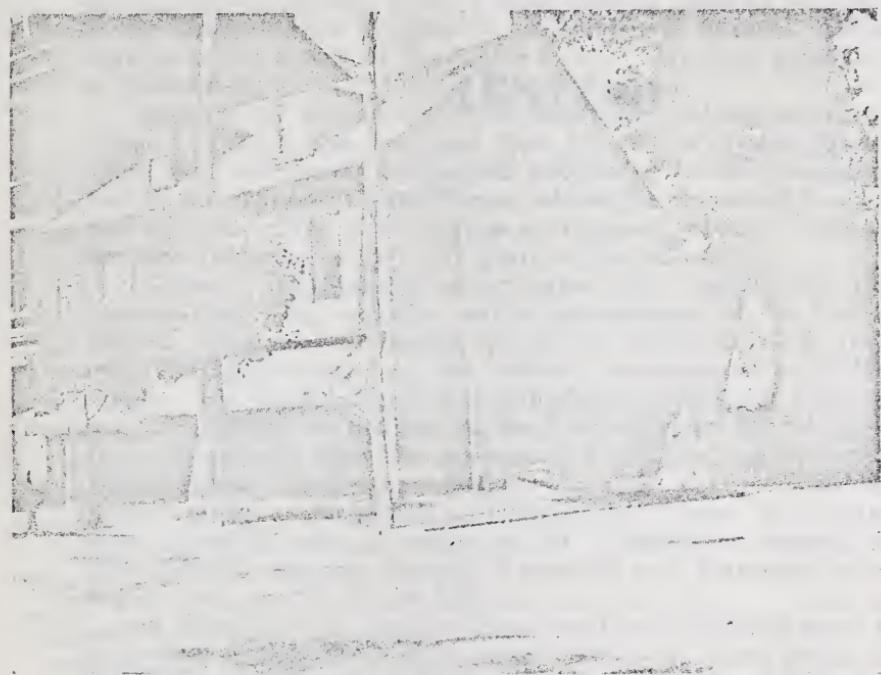
Immediately after enlisting in the United States service, these companies went into camp at Mt. Gretna, near Lebanon. From there they were sent to Camp Meade, below Harrisburg, and in August, 1898, to Camp Alger, in Virginia, opposite Washington. Both the York County companies were later transferred to Augusta, Georgia, where they remained until they were mustered out. The war with Spain ended before they were called into active service in the field. General John W. Schall, who led the 87th Regiment of York County troops in many a hard fought battle during the Rebellion, commanded the brigade in which the two York County companies served in the Spanish-American war. There were at least 100 soldiers from York County who served in different commands of the army. A few York County soldiers served in the Fourth



Pennsylvania Regiment, which was sent to the island of Porto Rico. A number of York County men also served in the United States navy during this war.

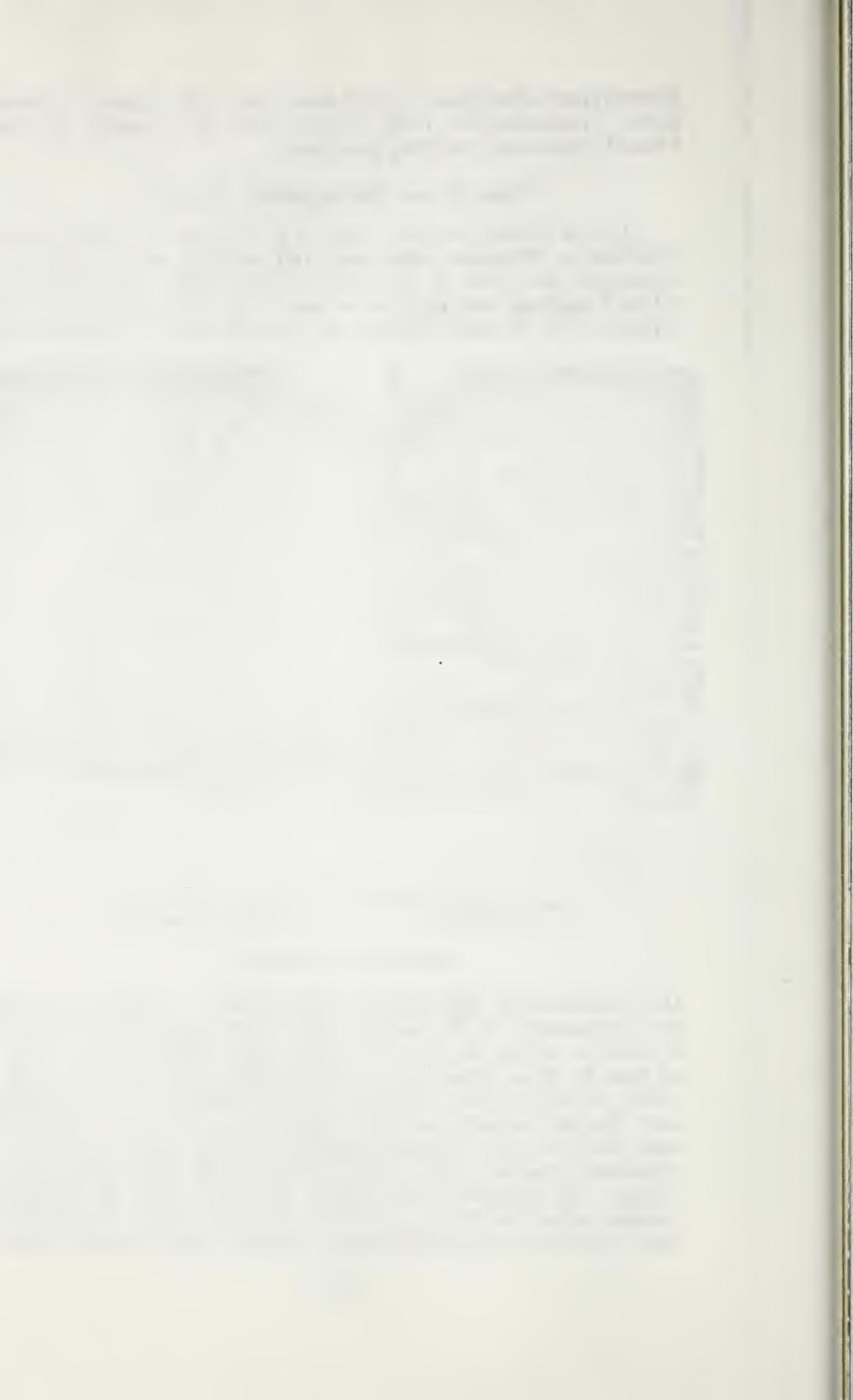
Visits From Distinguished Persons.

It was during the dark days of the Revolution that Baron Steuben, a Prussian nobleman, and an aide on the staff of Frederick the Great in the Seven Years' War, came to York while Congress was in session here. He was induced by St. Germain, the French Minister of War at Paris, to unite with



General Wayne's Headquarters

the Americans in fighting for independence. Steuben arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., in December, 1777, proceeded at once to Boston, where he received a letter from Washington, handed him by John Hancock, who had lately arrived from York. After an enthusiastic reception by the citizens of Portsmouth and Boston, accompanied by Duponceau, a learned Frenchman, and two aides, Steuben started for York, arriving here in February, the day after Lafayette had left York for Valley Forge. He stopped at the house of Eva, wife of Colonel Swope, who was then a prisoner of war in New York City. John Hancock occupied the same building when he was Presi-



dent of Congress. Steuben was met the day after his arrival by a committee of Congress, of which Doctor Witherspoon, of New Jersey, was chairman. He appeared before Congress and proposed to serve in the American army without pay, if the colonies failed to establish their independence. He was then made a major-general in the American Army and sent to the encampment at Valley Forge, where he began his successful experience in training the American soldiers in the military tactics used in European armies.

Thomas Paine, the noted patriot, who wrote many political documents which commanded the greatest attention during the Revolution, spent a short time in York as secretary to the Congressional Committee on Foreign Relations. While here he wrote a part of the "Fifth Crisis," which he published at Lancaster.

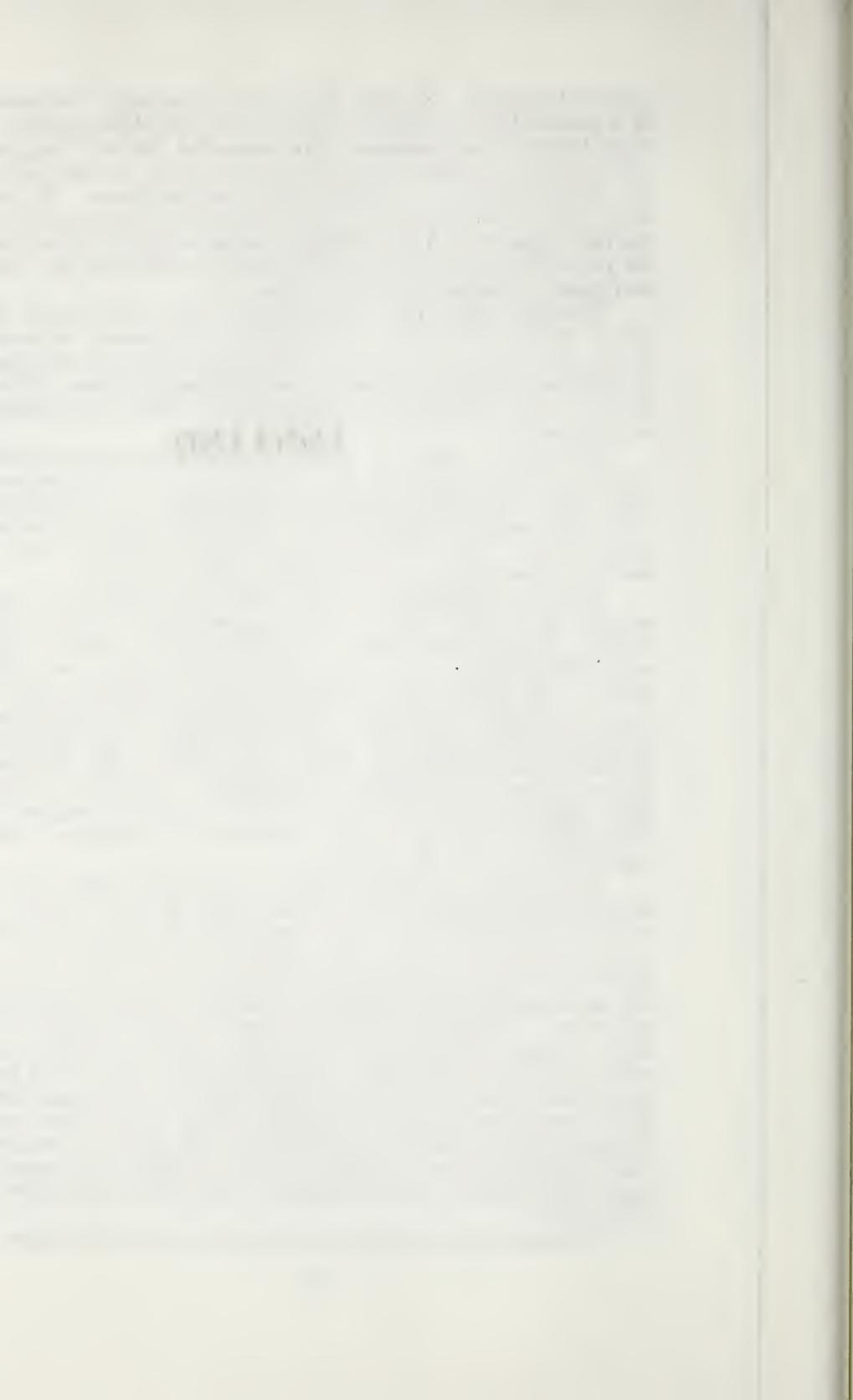
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During the winter of 1777-8, Martha Washington passed through York. She was met here by one of Washington's aides and with other attendants proceeded to the headquarters of the army at Valley Forge, where she remained for several months. Mrs. Washington also passed through York on her way from the army to Virginia in the year 1779.

General Washington never came here during the nine months that York was the seat of government of the United States. He remained during this whole period with his army near Philadelphia and at the military encampment at Valley Forge. He visited York during his early manhood when he was a surveyor, on his way to the land office at Philadelphia. In 1791, shortly after the session of Congress had closed at Philadelphia, Washington began his tour of the Southern States, going as far south as Charleston. Upon his return, after spending several weeks at Mt. Vernon, he started for Philadelphia, passing through Frederick and Hanover, arriving in York at 2 P. M., of July 2.

A delegation of York citizens went several miles west to meet him and escort him to town. Rev. Mr. Roth, pastor of the Moravian Church of York, made the following interesting entry in his diary: "Upon the arrival of the President all the bells in the town rang in honor of the event, as if the voices of the arch-angels were sounding in harmony and commanding attention. I could not repress my tears at the thought of all this. Indeed, I cried aloud, not from a sense of sadness, but from a feeling of joyfulness. In the evening there was a general illumination, and at the Court House in each pane was a light, forty-nine pounds of candles being used. The Independent Light Infantry, commanded by Captain Hay, paraded, and, being drawn up in front of his Excellency's stopping place, fired fifteen rounds in honor of the fifteen states now in the Union."

The following morning Washington was called upon by



a deputation of citizens including Colonel Hartley, then a member of Congress, who delivered a lengthy address in the course of which he said: "The citizens of York cordially join in the general satisfaction and joy, which all the people of America feel in seeing you, the nation's chief executive. We feel that there is a universal sentiment of regard, esteem and veneration for you. May the Supreme Governor of the universe long continue a life, so eminently distinguished in securing and preserving the best rights and happiness of the citizens of this highly favored country."

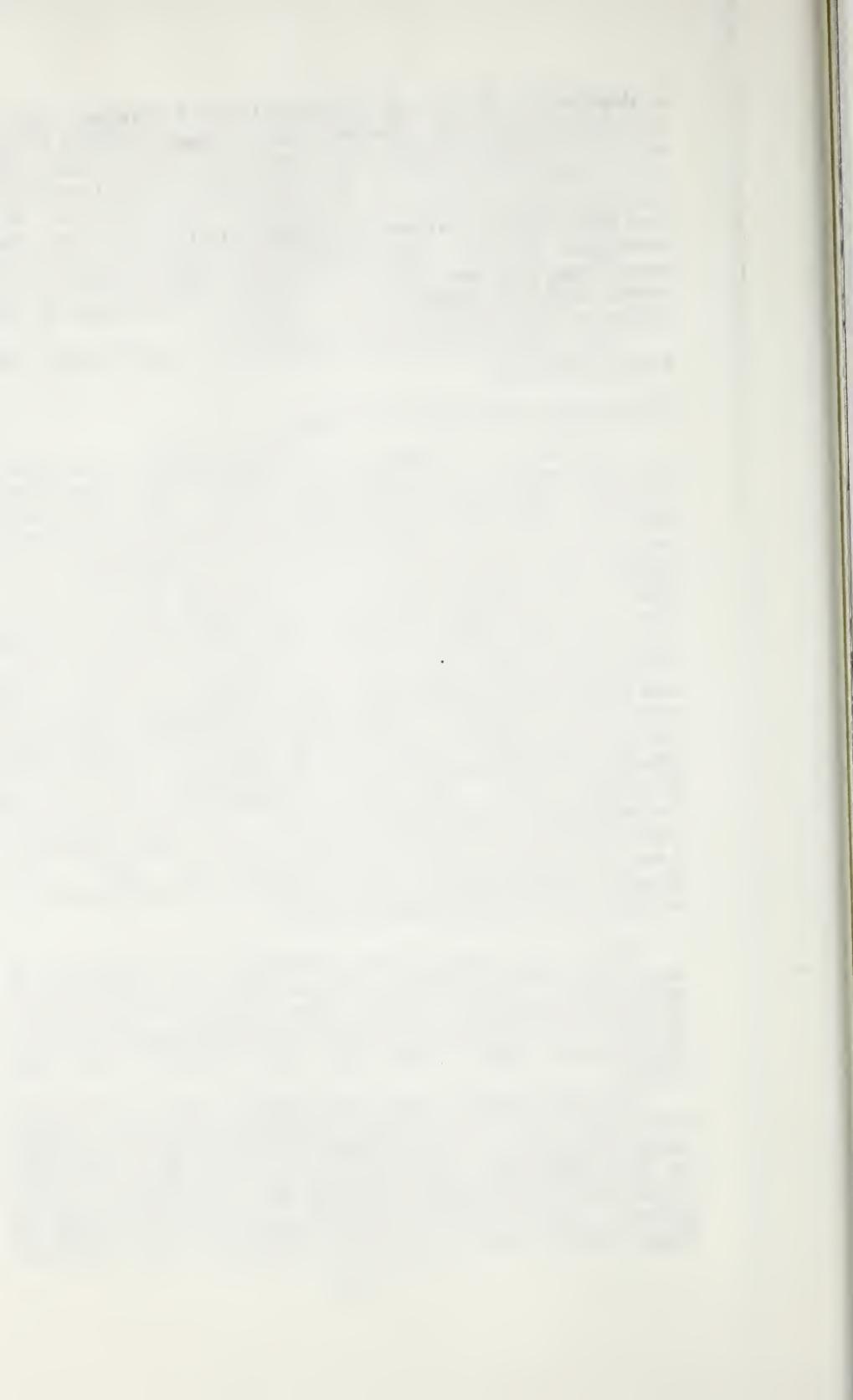
The President afterward handed the committee the following response:

"TO THE CITIZENS OF YORK:

"Gentlemen:—I receive your congratulations with pleasure and I reply to your flattering and affectionate expressions of esteem with sincere and grateful regard. The satisfaction which you derive from the congeniality of freedom with good government which is clearly shown in the happiness of our highly favored country at once rewards the patriotism that achieved her liberty, and gives an assurance of its duration. That your individual prosperity may long continue among the proofs that attest the national welfare, is my earnest wish." Washington made this entry in his diary: "After receiving and answering an address from the inhabitants of York, I decided to go to church. There being no Episcopal minister in the place, I went to hear morning service in the Reformed Church, which being in the German language, I did not understand a word. There was no danger of the eloquence of the preacher causing a proselyte of me. After service, accompanied by Colonel Hartley and half a dozen other gentlemen, I set out for Lancaster, and the following day, July 4, was present in that borough at the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of American Independence."

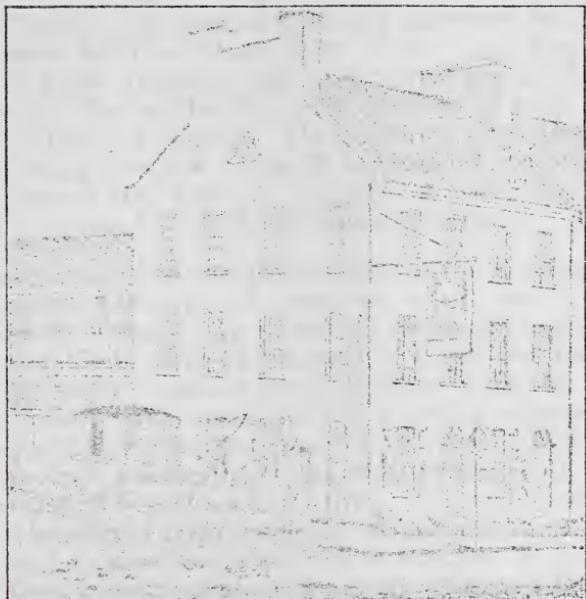
There is no record of any other visit of Washington to York except that he dined in the town in 1794, on his way to Philadelphia upon his return from Western Pennsylvania. The boat in which he then crossed the Susquehanna River at Wrightsville caught in the rocks and remained there two hours.

In 1825, Lafayette, who was making a tour of this country as the "Guest of the Nation," arrived in York from Baltimore, January 29. He proceeded to Harrisburg accompanied by Dr. Adam King, who the next year was elected to Congress from York County; Colonel M. H. Spangler, who so gallantly commanded the York Volunteers at the battle of North Point in 1814, and Jacob Spangler, then Surveyor-



General of Pennsylvania. They returned to York on Wednesday, February 2, and upon their arrival at the turnpike gate at 4 P. M., were met by a battalion of volunteers composed of Captain Nes' artillery, Captain Smith's rifle company, four other companies under Captains Small, Barnitz, Freysinger and Stuck, and a vast multitude of people from the town and county. The tour of Lafayette of all the twenty-four states then in the Union had caused a wave of patriotism to pass over the entire land such as had never before been known, and the enterprising editor of the York Gazette, in the issue of February 8, 1825, says:

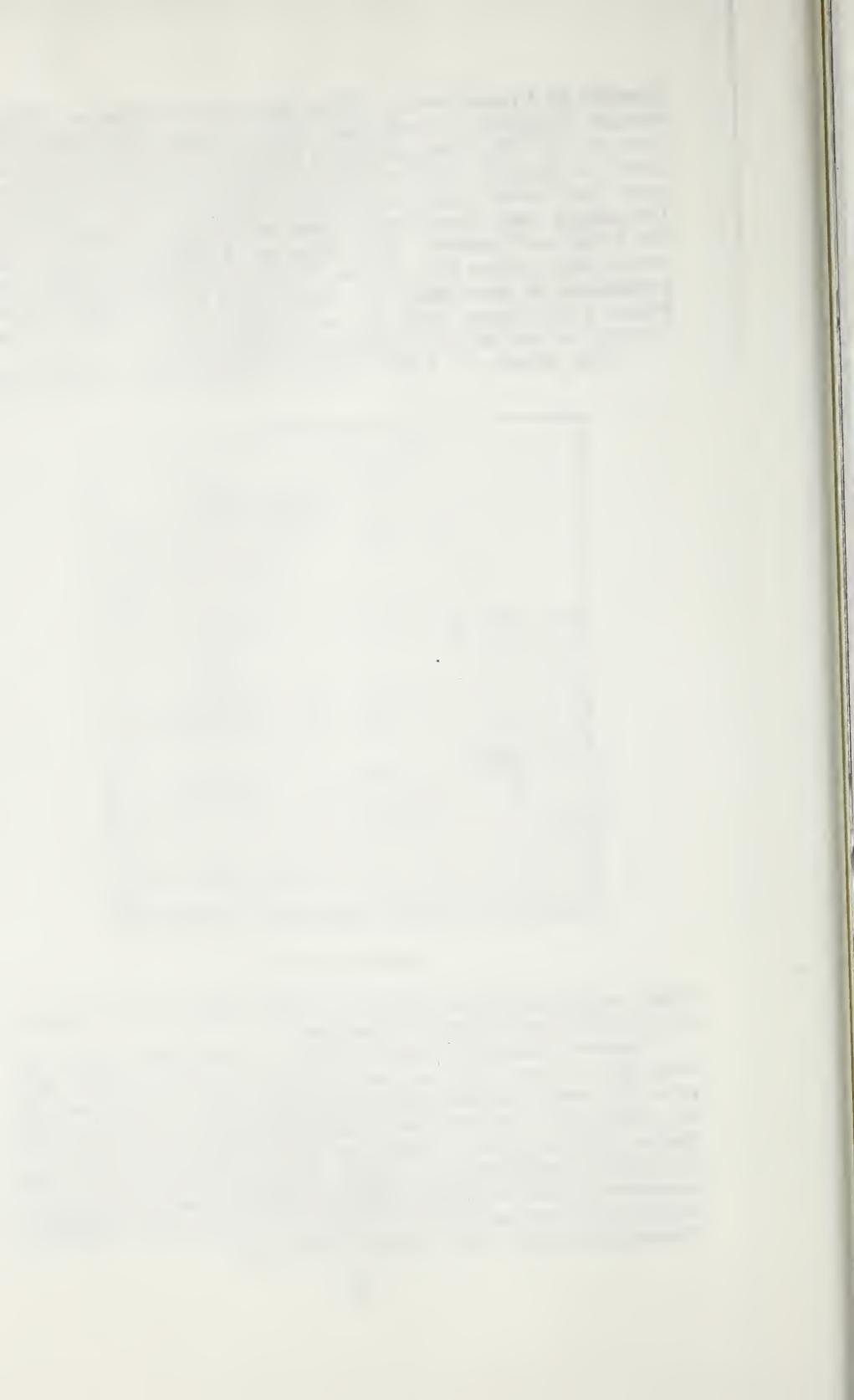
"The people of York County poured forth overflowing



The McGrath Inn

hearts of gratitude and welcome to him whose name is a passport to the heart of every American."

General Lafayette entered York in a barouche drawn by four gray horses, and as the procession passed through the principal streets, all the bells of the town were ringing and all the sidewalks, windows, doors and porticoes were filled with people, shouting their "Welcome, thrice welcome, Lafayette." The general stopped over night at McGrath's Inn, at the southwest corner of Center Square, where he held a reception, after which 100 persons sat down to a sumptuous banquet. Among the many toasts was the following:



"Lafayette: We love him as a man, hail him as a deliverer, revere him as a champion of freedom and welcome him as a guest."

To which he responded: "The town of York, the seat of our American Union in our most gloomy time. May her citizens enjoy a proportionate share of American prosperity."

The next day he reviewed the military and left for Baltimore. Some of the old soldiers of the Revolution "could not receive the last adieu of the aged general without testifying their emotions in tears."

John Adams, who was one of the leading spirits of Congress while its sessions were held in our colonial Court House, visited York in June, 1800, while he was President of the United States. He was met on his approach by the cavalry commanded by Lieutenant John Fisher and Captain Philip Gossler's Light Infantry, and escorted to town, where he was received by the inhabitants with ringing of bells and other demonstrations of respect. He remained here over night and the following day the borough authorities waited upon him and presented him with an address of welcome. President Adams responded with the following address:

"To the Corporation and Inhabitants of the Borough of York:

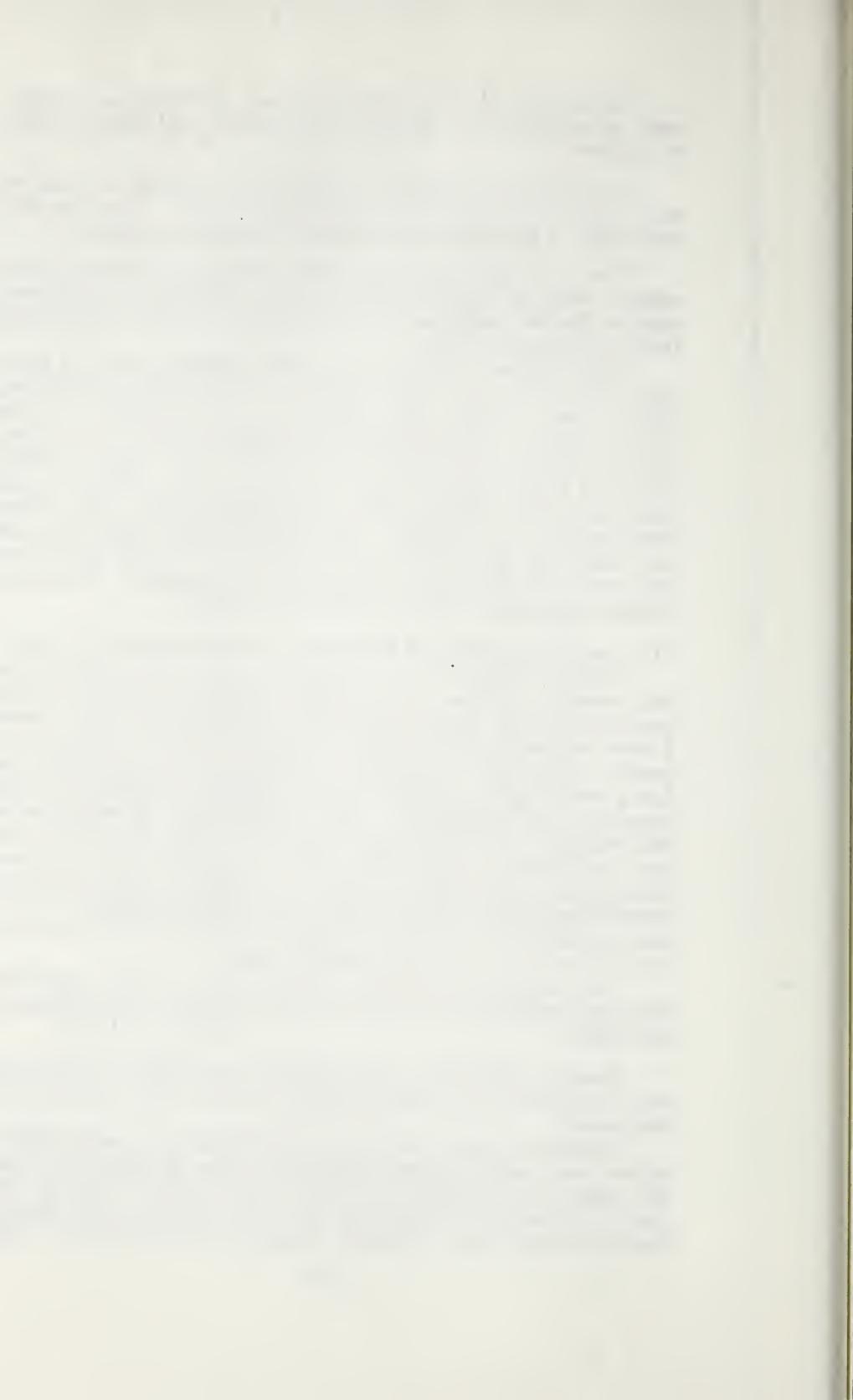
"Fellow Citizens:—I received with much satisfaction this friendly address. In revisiting the great counties of Lancaster and York, after an interval of three and twenty years, I have not only received great pleasure from the civilities of people, which have deserved my grateful acknowledgments, but a much higher delight from the various evidences of their happiness and prosperity. The multiplication of inhabitants, the increase of buildings and utility, commerce and ornament, and the extensive improvements of the soil have everywhere given to the appearances around us a polish in some measure resembling those countries where art, skill and industry have been exhausted in giving the highest finishing and the cultivation of the lands for many hundred years.

"In return for your kind wishes, I pray for the confirmation and extension to you and your posterity of every blessing you enjoy.

"JOHN ADAMS."

Shortly afterwards the President proceeded on his journey, escorted by the same military corps which met him on his arrival.

General Andrew Jackson, accompanied by several officers of the army, arrived here in February, 1819, stopping one hour for supper at Hammersly's Hotel. The same evening the party proceeded to Lancaster and the following day started for the United States Military Academy at West Point. The



general and his associates had been appointed by President Monroe to visit that institution.

General Zachary Taylor, the hero of Buena Vista, came to York, August 10, 1849, arriving here from Baltimore on a train which stopped at West Market and Water Streets. He was enthusiastically received by the people of all political parties and escorted by the Worth Infantry, commanded by Captain Thomas A. Ziegler, a soldier of the Mexican War, and a delegation of citizens in carriages, passed up Market Street to the Washington Hotel. After taking dinner at this noted hostelry, he held a reception and made a brief speech. He then proceeded on his journey to Philadelphia. General Taylor made his visit to York about six months after his inauguration as President of the United States.

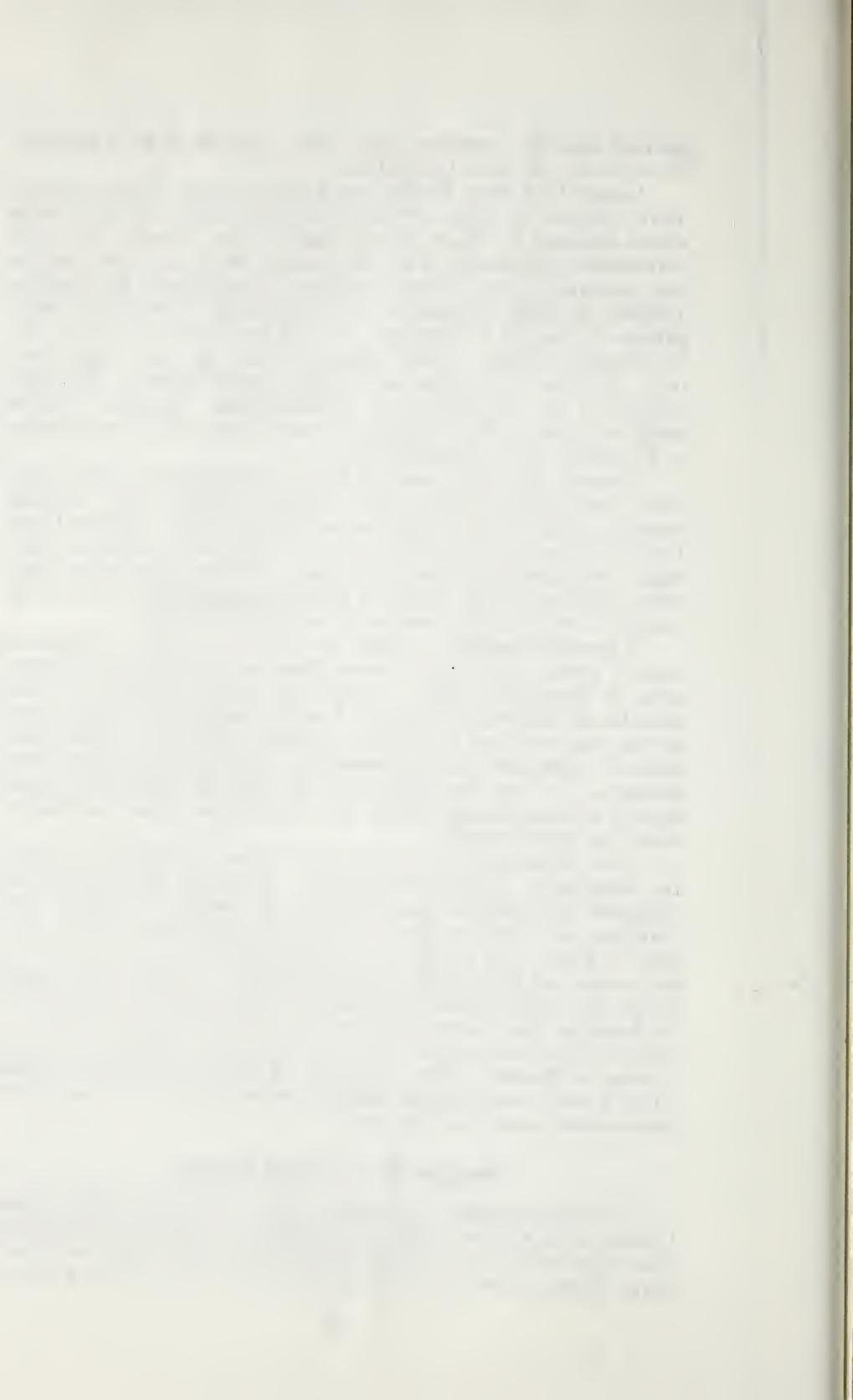
Among the other men of fame and distinction who honored York with a visit were Charles Dickens, the English novelist; Black Hawk, the famous Indian chief; Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Lewis Cass, James Buchanan, Admiral Farragut, and General Ulysses S. Grant. There were many incidents relating to the visits of these distinguished men which cannot be told in this brief story of historic York.

Though Abraham Lincoln was never a visitor at York, he passed across the county from Hanover Junction to Gettysburg in November, 1863. While the train stopped for a few minutes at Hanover, President Lincoln walked to the platform of the rear car, and in response to the enthusiastic calls for a speech, addressed a large assemblage of people for about three minutes. It was the following day that he made his great speech at Gettysburg during the ceremonies when the battlefield was consecrated.

Two interesting and important facts of history can only be referred to in this brief story. The first iron steamboat designed in America was made at the shops of Davis and Gardner, at York, in 1826. It was the invention of John Elgar, of York, who afterward won distinction as an inventor in the employ of Ross Winans, of Baltimore. At the same shops in the year 1831, Davis and Gardner made the first locomotive in America that burned anthracite coal. It was put into successful operation on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad and won a prize of \$4,000. The inventor of this locomotive, called "The York," was Phineas Davis, a noted citizen of York, who afterwards moved to Baltimore.

Notable Men of York County.

The most notable man of the early colonial period in York County was Colonel Hance Hamilton, a native of Scotland, who came with the early Scotch-Irish settlers, first to Newberry Manor, then to the Marsh Creek country, near Gettys-



burg. He was chosen the first sheriff of York County in 1750; next he became one of the justices of the Court of Common Pleas. In 1756 he led a company in the French and Indian war, and in 1758, commanded a battalion of the First Pennsylvania regiment, under General Armstrong, against the Indians at Kittanning. He died at the early age of fifty-one, just before the Revolution.

Colonel Richard McAllister, the founder of Hanover, was a very conspicuous personage in colonial days, as well as during the Revolution. He led a York County regiment in several engagements, then was appointed to organize all the militia west of the Susquehanna. He was the first president justice of the county courts under the constitution of 1776, and later was vice-president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

James Smith, member of Continental Congress and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was one of the earliest members of the York County bar. He was born in Ireland, and when quite young came with his parents to America, settling in the lower end of York County. When the Revolutionary sentiment was gathering force, he was an ardent patriot and soon became the most influential man west of the Susquehanna. He died in York at the age of 93, and his remains rest in the Presbyterian church yard. The ablest statesman west of the Susquehanna, immediately after the Revolution, was Colonel Thomas Hartley, a lawyer by profession, who served with high honor and distinction as an officer in the Revolution. He was chosen a member of the First Congress of the United States in 1789, and proved himself to be a fine orator and a useful legislator. The first speech in favor of a protective tariff ever made in Congress was delivered by him during Washington's administration. Colonel Hartley was the first member of the Pennsylvania bar to be admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States. He died in York December 21, 1800, and his remains were buried in the Episcopal church yard on North Beaver Street, where a monument has been erected to his memory, through the efforts of the Yorktown Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution.

General Henry Miller, the first burgess of York at the time of the incorporation in 1787, was a man of note and distinction. He was born near Lancaster, and came to York in 1760. At the opening of the Revolution he became a lieutenant in Captain Doudel's Rifle company, which on June 1, 1775, began the march from York to Massachusetts soon after hearing of the battle of Bunker Hill. Although still a young man he was promoted from one post to another until he received the commission of a brigadier-general. He took an active part in many battles, including White Plains, Trenton, Monmouth, Brandywine and Germantown. He received high commenda-

tion from General Washington for his bravery in the battle of Monmouth, where two horses were shot under him. After the war he served as a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1790, then removed to Baltimore and subsequently to Carlisle, where he died in 1824.

Ellis Lewis, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, was born in Lewisberry, which town was named in honor of his ancestor, Eli Lewis, who wrote the famous poem, entitled "St. Clair's Defeat."

Major John Clark, of York, who as a young man of 24, became an aid to General Greene in the Revolution, won the highest commendations from General Washington for his service in the army. He was a lawyer of exceptional ability.



General Henry Miller

Colonel David Grier was a member of the York bar in 1771. When the Revolution opened he was chosen captain of a company of volunteers, and later was lieutenant-colonel of the Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment. He was wounded at the battle of Paoli, and became one of the original members of the Society of Cincinnati.

General James Ewing, of the Revolution, resided at his country seat in Hellam Township, near Wrightsville, and died there in 1806. He was a soldier in Braddock's army in 1755, and three years later, held the commission of a lieutenant in Forbes' expedition against Fort Duquesne. He was a brigadier-general of York County militia before the Revolution, and at the opening of hostilities commanded the first brigade of the Flying Camp.

No soldiers of the Revolution gained more lasting fame

for their daring courage and bravery, than General Richard Butler and his brothers, who were born in the western part of York County. They were known as "a gallant band of patriot brothers." Richard Butler, for whom one of the leading counties of the state was named, served under Colonel Bouquet in his western expedition before the Revolution. He commanded a regiment at the surrender of Burgoyne, led the Pennsylvania troops at Monmouth under Washington, and at Stony Point under Wayne. In 1781 he was second in command under General Wayne in the famous march from York, Pennsylvania, to Yorktown, Virginia, where they took a prominent part at the surrender of Cornwallis. General Butler's three brothers were officers in the Revolution.

A man of great note and distinction in his time, a descendant of sturdy Scotch-Irish ancestry, was Hugh Henry Brackenridge, of Hopewell Township. He was first a chaplain in the Revolution; afterward a distinguished lawyer in Western Pennsylvania, and a justice of the Supreme Court of the state. He wrote a brilliant satire entitled "Modern Chivalry" after the order of "Hudibras," which attracted wide attention.

On the fertile plains of Lower Chanceford Township, near the village of Airville, the ancestors of William McKinley settled with the early Scotch-Irish immigrants west of the Susquehanna. After taking an active and honorable part in the struggle for independence, the President's ancestors migrated to Western Pennsylvania and from there to Ohio.

The most distinguished lawyer York County has produced was James Ross, who was born near Delta, in Peachbottom Township, in 1762. Early in life he migrated to the city of Pittsburgh, where he won national fame as an advocate, taking the highest rank at the bar, with no superior in the state. He was a close and intimate friend of Washington, and managed the estates of the first president in Western Pennsylvania. Mr. Ross served two terms in the United States Senate. In 1802 he attracted the attention of the whole country by an eloquent speech in the United States Senate, favoring war with Spain or the purchase of Louisiana territory, which included nearly all the land west of the Mississippi. This speech created a deep interest on the subject, and led to President Jefferson sending Monroe to France, which mission resulted in the purchase of Louisiana. Senator Ross was an orator and statesman, ranking with the leaders of the great Federalistic party, of whose policy and principles he was an ardent advocate.

In Hopewell Township, not far west from the birthplace of Senator Ross, the eminent jurist John Rowan was born, in 1773. He became a great criminal lawyer in Kentucky, served six years in the United States Senate from Kentucky, was

commissioner of claims against Mexico, and first president of the Kentucky Historical Society. He attracted wide attention in 1827 by a speech delivered in the United States Senate against imprisonment for debt.

The third of the trio of United States Senators from York County is Matthew Stanley Quay, whose father was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Dillsburg from 1830 to 1839. It was in that borough that this distinguished Pennsylvanian was born, in 1833, and was graduated from Washington and Jefferson college at the age of 17. In 1861 he enlisted as a lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Reserves, and later was chosen colonel of the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth regiment, which he led in a famous charge at the battle of Fredericksburg. Soon afterward Governor Curtin made Colonel Quay his military secretary. He afterward filled many important public positions, including two terms in the United States Senate. He was recognized as one of the ablest political leaders this country has ever produced.

The city of York was the birthplace of Rear Admiral Franklin, who won honor and fame in the Civil war as a naval commander. His brother, General William B. Franklin, also born in York, commanded a division in the battle of Antietam; the First and Sixth corps of the Army of the Potomac, and was second to General Banks in the Red River expedition. He was made a major-general in 1865. General Edmund Schriver, a native of York, rose from the position of lieutenant-colonel, in 1861, to that of major-general in the regular army in 1865.

General Horatio Gates Gibson, a grandson of Dr. David Jameson, of York, and brother of the late Judge Gibson, graduated at West Point in 1847, took part in numerous engagements and was promoted to a brigadier-general in 1865 for "gallant and meritorious service during the war." General M. P. Small, of York, a graduate of West Point in 1855, was first an officer in the artillery service, became a brigadier-general of volunteers in 1865 "for faithful and meritorious services."

Valentine Meisheimer, known in scientific circles as the "father of American entomology," lived many years in Hanover as pastor of the Lutheran church. Thomas Barton, the famous missionary, and father of Benjamin Barton, the first teacher of botany in America, founded the Episcopal church at York. For thirty years or more Jeremiah S. Black, one of the greatest jurists of his time, resided at his country seat near York, afterward the home of his honored son, Chauncey F. Black.

Court Houses.

The County Courts were held in the houses of the justices, or at some public inn, at York, from 1749 to 1756. In

1754 the County Commissioners entered into an agreement with William Willis, an intelligent Quaker of York, to build the walls for the court house in center square. Henry Clark, of Warrington, contracted to furnish the lumber, and John Meen and Jacob Klein were the carpenters. Robert Jones, of Manchester, was to furnish seven thousand shingles. This court house was completed in 1756 and stood until 1840, a period of eighty-four years. It was in this building that Continental Congress held its sessions for nine months of 1777-78.

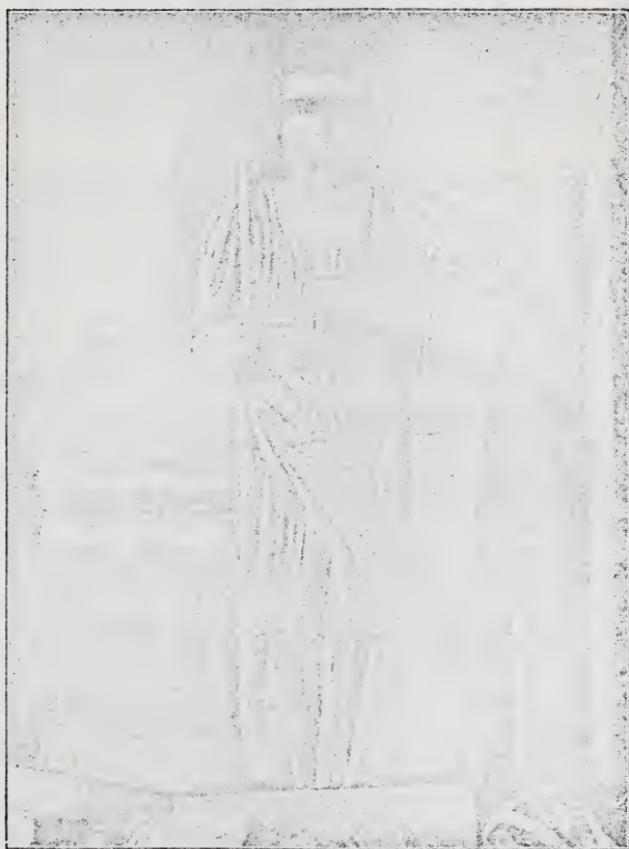
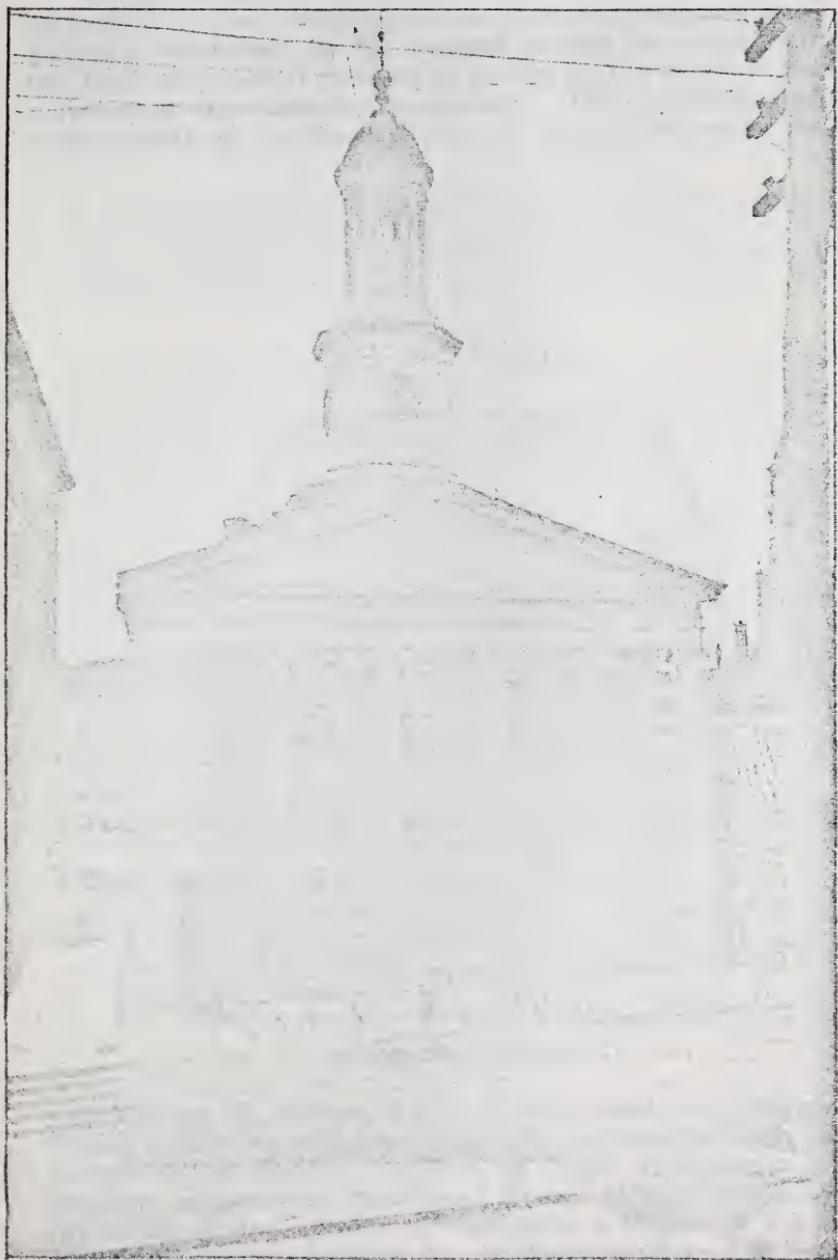


Figure of Justice in Colonial Court House

When it was decided to build a new court house, a great controversy arose as to its location. The commissioners finally selected the one where the court house now stands. Jacob Dietz and Henry Small were the builders; Charles Eppley the mason. The county commissioners then were John Reiman, William Nichols and John Beck. The granite pillars in front of the court house were brought from Maryland. The cost

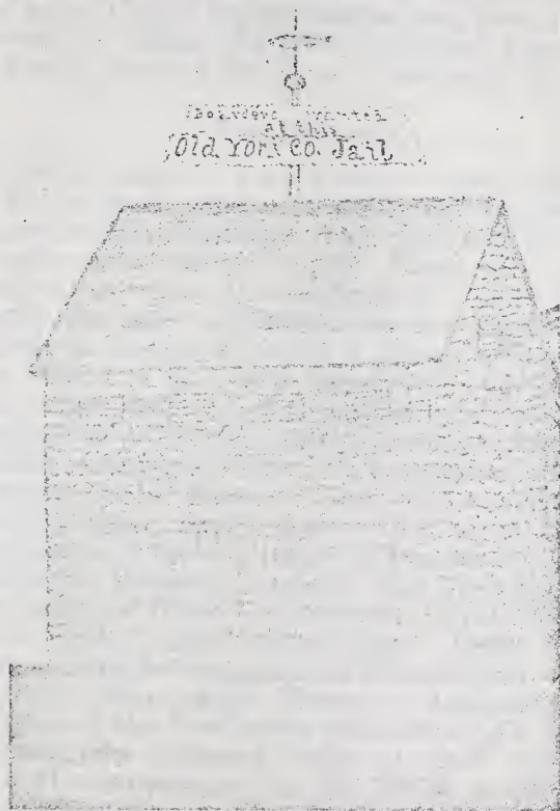


The Second Court House

45

of the building was \$100,000. The first court held in it was opened August 26th, 1846. The cupola was built on it and the bell placed in position in 1847.

This building was poorly ventilated, and no longer adapted to the increased demands of the court business, and was replaced in 1898-1900, by the present elegant structure, one of the most ornamental temples of justice in the state of Pennsylvania, or anywhere in this country. The commissioners of York county at the time of the erection of this court house



The First York County Jail

were George W. Atticks, Robert S. McDonald, and Andrew K. Straley. This beautiful building with an imposing front, supported by six granite columns of Ionic architecture, is a graceful ornament to the city of York. It is surmounted by three domes, the middle one rising to a height of 155 feet. The interior of the building is a model of architectural beauty, and every department is admirably adapted for the purposes

designed. The materials used in the construction of this court house are of excellent quality, which makes it both attractive and durable. The architect who designed and planned it was J. A. Dempwolf, of York.

The judges who presided over the courts of York county in the order of succession since 1790 are as follows: William Augustus Atlee, John Joseph Henry, Walter Franklin, Ebenezer G. Bradford, Daniel Durkee, Robert J. Fisher, John Gibson, Pere L. Wickes, James W. Latimer, John W. Bittenger, W. F. Bay Stewart and Nevin M. Wanner.

James Ross, for thirty years leader of the Pittsburg Bar and nine years United States senator, was born at Delta, Pa., and Jeremiah S. Black, the great jurist and statesman, spent the last twenty years of his life as a resident of York.

The Judiciary.

The early courts of York County were presided over by justices of the peace, who were appointed and commissioned by the provincial authorities. This plan was in force under the first state constitution of 1776. There was one president judge and either two or four associates. Under the constitution of 1790, the state was divided by the legislature into judicial districts, in each of which a person of knowledge and integrity, skilled in law, was appointed and commissioned president judge; and in each county either three or four persons, not learned in the law, were appointed associate judges.

William Augustus Atlee, of Lancaster, who was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1777, under the first state constitution, in 1791, under the new constitution became president judge of the Second Judicial district, embracing Chester, Lancaster and York Counties. His associate judges in York County were Henry Schlegel, John Edie, Jacob Rudisill and William Scott. Judge Atlee died of yellow fever while holding court in Philadelphia in 1793. His successor was John Joseph Henry, of Lancaster, who as a young soldier of the Revolution had injured his health in the famous expedition against Canada, of which he became the historian. He was captured by the British at the storming of Quebec, and held for a year as a prisoner of war. In 1793, at the age of 35, after eight years of experience at the bar, he was appointed by his friend, Governor Thomas Mifflin, the president judge of the Second District. In 1806 Chester was separated from the Second District, and the new county of Dauphin annexed to it. January 10, 1811, Judge Henry resigned. The state awarded him \$1,600, "for his services and sufferings in the Revolution." He died in April, 1814.

Walter Franklin, a native of New York city, for years a member of the Philadelphia bar, and attorney-general of Penn-

sylvania in the administration of Simon Snyder, the first German governor of the state, was appointed president judge of the Second District January 18, 1811. It then embraced York, Lancaster and Dauphin Counties, but Cumberland and Lebanon were added soon afterward, and Dauphin placed in another district. Judge Franklin continued in office for the long period of twenty-seven years, until his death in 1838 at Lancaster.

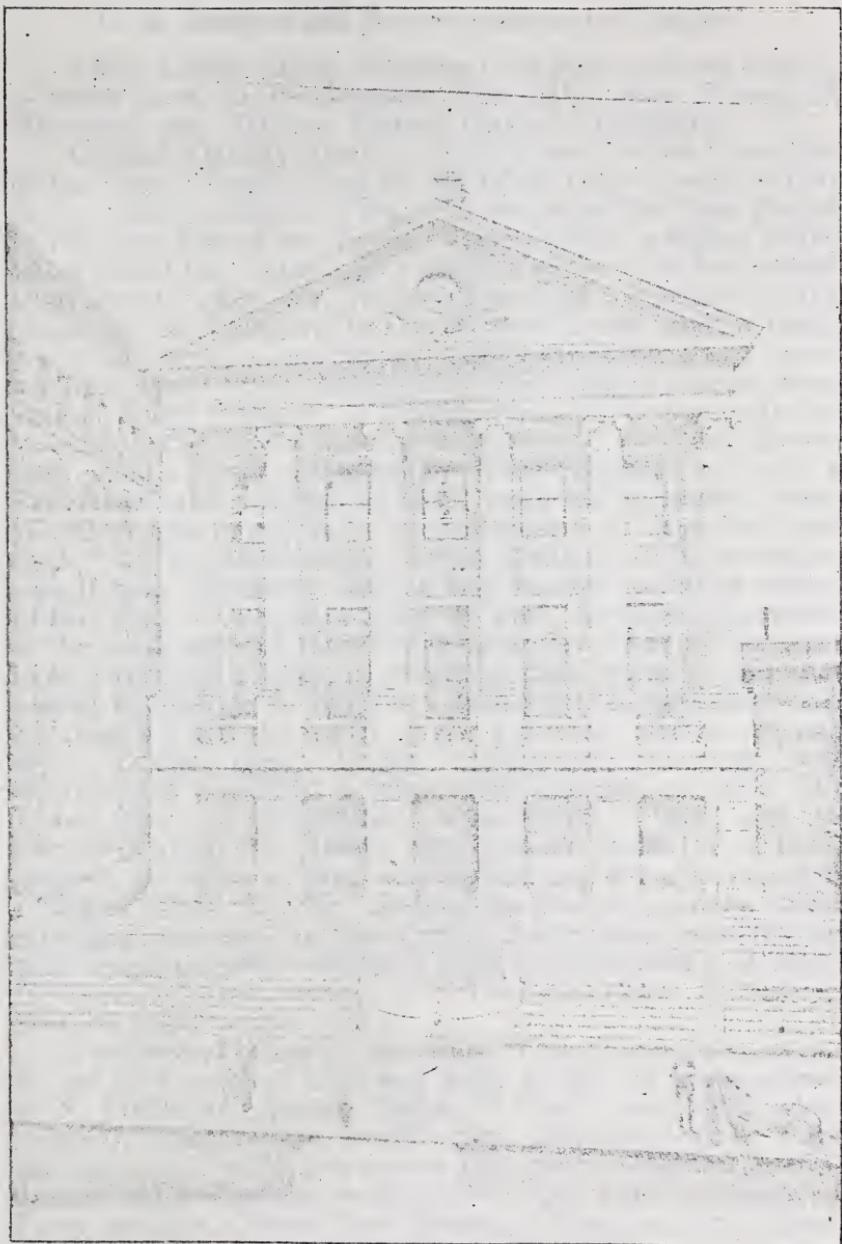
In the meantime, a district court had been established for York County, by legislative enactment in 1826, having concurrent jurisdiction with the court of Common Pleas. Ebenezer G. Bradford was made president judge of this county and Alexander Thompson associate. The latter was succeeded by Alexander L. Hayes, of Lancaster, and Lancaster County was made part of the district.

From 1833 to 1840 York was a separate district with Daniel Durkee as judge. In 1835 York and Adams were separated from the Second Judicial District of the Court of Common Pleas and they formed the nineteenth, which title York County still bears. Judge Durkee, who had been judge of the District Court, which then ceased to exist, was appointed judge of the nineteenth district and presided over all the courts of York and Adams counties until 1845, when he was succeeded by Judge Irwin, who resigned, and Judge Durkee succeeded him until 1851. Of the associate judges who served on the bench with Durkee, Judge Barnitz, of York, held the position twenty-seven years, and Judge John L. Hinkle, of Hanover, twenty-three years.

Robert J. Fisher, son of George Fisher, a leading member of the Dauphin County bar, was chosen judge in 1851, under the provisions of the revised constitution of 1838, which made the office elective. He was re-elected in 1861 and again in 1871, and served in all the long period of thirty years.

In the revised constitution of 1873 the office of associate judge, not learned in the law, was abolished in counties forming a separate district. Counties having 40,000 inhabitants were to constitute separate districts. York county having 76,000 itself became the nineteenth district. The last of the associate judges were John Moore, of Fairview, whose term expired in 1875, and Valentine Trout, of Chanceford, whose term expired in 1878.

By act of April 12, 1875, York County was given an additional law judge, and Pere L. Wickes was elected to the position. At the general election in 1881, John Gibson was chosen to succeed Judge Fisher, and Judge Wickes, by seniority of commission, was made president judge, serving until 1886, when James W. Latimer was elected additional law judge. John W. Bittenger was elected to succeed Judge Gibson, and



Present Court House

W. F. Bay Stewart to succeed James W. Latimer in 1896. Nevin M. Wanner was chosen his successor in 1906.

U. S. Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Three United States Senators were born in York County —James Ross, in Peachbottom Township; John Rowan, in Hopewell, and Matthew Stanley Quay, in Dillsburg.

Colonel Thomas Hartley, of York, was chosen a member of the First Congress, and served in all twelve years in that body. John Stewart, of York, who succeeded him, was elected in 1801, and served two terms. James Kelley, a native of the lower end of the county, and a member of the York bar, served from 1805 to 1809. Dr. William Crawford, a graduate of the University of Edinburg in the classical course and in medicine, a physician in the Marsh Creek settlement, was a member from 1809 to 1817, representing York county four of those years. Hugh Glasgow, of Peachbottom, for twelve years an associate judge, was a member from 1813 to 1817, as a Democrat, when he was succeeded by Jacob Spangler, of York, a Federalist, who resigned in 1818, when his successor, Jacob Hostetter, the noted old-time clockmaker of Hanover, was elected by the Democrats. James Mitchell, of Warrington, served from December, 1821, to March, 1826, and then moved to the West. Dr. Adam King, of York, for many years one of the proprietors of the York Gazette, served as a Democrat from December 4, 1827, to March 4, 1832, when he was succeeded by George A. Barnitz, a follower of Henry Clay, and for twenty years the leader of the York bar, who served one term. Colonel Henry Logan, of Carroll Township, was elected as a Democrat in 1834 and re-elected in 1836. Dr. James Gerry, of Shrewsbury, was elected in 1838, and re-elected in 1840. Dr. Henry Nes, who succeeded as an independent candidate in 1842, was elected as a Whig in 1844 and 1848 and served till 1850. During his term he was one of the attending physicians to John Quincy Adams, who was stricken with apoplexy, while making a speech in Congress. William H. Kurtz, of York, served as a Democrat from December, 1851, to March, 1855.

For several terms in succession York County was represented by Lemuel Todd and John A. Ahl, of Cumberland; B. F. Junkin and Joseph Bailey, of Perry, until 1864, when Adam J. Glossbrenner, another part proprietor of the York Gazette, was elected and served two terms. Richard J. Halldeman, of Cumberland, succeeded in 1870; John A. Magee, of Perry, in 1872; Colonel Levi Maish, of York, in 1874; Frank E. Beltzhoover, of Cumberland, in 1878; William A. Duncan, of Adams, in 1882; who died soon after his second election, and was succeeded by Dr. John Swope, of Adams County, in

January, 1885. The members elected since Dr. Swope in order were Colonel Maish, F. E. Beltzhoover, James A. Stahle, George J. Benner, Edward D. Ziegler, Robert J. Lewis, and Daniel F. Lafean.

First Public Roads, Canal, Railroad, Banks and Newspapers.

The first public road laid out west of the Susquehanna, under Penn's government, was authorized by the courts at Lancaster in 1739, ten years before York county was formed. It extended from Wright's Ferry through the present sites of York and Hanover to the Monocacy settlement, near Frederick, Maryland, a distance of thirty-five miles from the point of starting. It soon became an important line of travel from the east to the south and the southwest. This route was taken by General Wayne in 1781, when he marched with his forces from York to Yorktown, Virginia, to the surrender of Cornwallis. It was also the route over which the British and Hessian prisoners were removed during the Revolution to Western Maryland and Virginia. President Washington passed over it in 1791 on his way from Mt. Vernon to Philadelphia, and Generals Wayne and St. Clair in 1791 and 1792 on their way to quell the Indians in the Ohio valley. During the war of 1812 when the British captured Washington and threatened Baltimore, immense teams of wagons, conveying cotton from Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, used this route on their way to Philadelphia and New York. The war with England prevented trade with the south being carried on by water.

A road was laid out to the Conewago settlement at Hanover in 1736, by authority of the Maryland courts.

A company was chartered by the state in 1791 to construct a canal around the Conewago falls at York Haven in order to improve the navigation of the Susquehanna. Among the fifteen directors empowered by the state to build and operate the canal, were Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution; David Rittenhouse, the first great American astronomer; Dr. William Smith, Tench Francis and Alexander James Dallas, all of Philadelphia.

The company received state aid to the amount of \$20,000 and the canal, one mile in length and forty feet wide, was completed in 1795 at a cost of \$102,000. It was the first important step in developing the internal improvements of the state and was the first canal built in the middle and southern states. The canal was opened to public use with imposing ceremonies November 22, 1797. Thomas Mifflin, the first governor of the state, and the state legislature came up from Lancaster, then the state capital, on horseback, and crossed the river in flat boats. Governor Mifflin made a speech on that occasion.

The Baltimore and Susquehanna railroad, now part of the Northern Central Railway, was started in Baltimore in 1830 and completed to Owing's mills in 1832. It did not reach York until August, 1838. A line was completed from York to Wrightsville in 1840, and at Columbia joined the state road to Philadelphia. The line from York to Harrisburg was finished in 1850.

The telegraph was first put into operation from Baltimore to York in 1850, only six years after its invention by Morse. The same year lines were extended to Harrisburg and to Columbia. The first telegraph line to Hanover was built in 1858.

J. K. Gross in 1882 first put the telephone on the exchange system into effective use in York county. W. Latimer Small put up the first wire in the county, from his residence to the Codorus mills.

The York bank, founded in 1814, was the only financial institution in York until 1835, when the York County bank was founded. The Hanover Saving Fund society was founded in 1835.

The printing press was brought to York county during the Revolution when Continental Congress, in 1777, while sitting in York, ordered the press of Hall & Sellers, of Philadelphia, to be removed to York. On this press many public documents were published, likewise much Continental money. The "Pennsylvania Gazette," a weekly paper founded by Franklin in Philadelphia, was also published in York during 1777-78. The first paper started in York was the Pennsylvania Chronicle and Weekly Advertiser, in 1787. It lasted only two years and was succeeded by the Pennsylvania Herald, the files of which are now in the Historical Society of York county.

The Davis Engine.

In 1831 the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company offered a premium of \$4,000 "for the most approved and \$3,500 for the engine which shall be adjudged the next best." There were four competitors for these premiums, among them Davis & Gardner, of York, Pa., to whom was awarded the first premium. Their first locomotive was named the "York" and was built in their shops at the corner of King and Newberry Streets, and shipped to Baltimore on wagons. They afterward built two locomotives in York named respectively the "Atlantic" and the "Indian Chief." The latter was afterwards christened the "Traveler." "No authentic drawing or other representation on any of these engines," says the noted mechanical engineer, M. N. Forney, in the Railroad Gazette for 1903, "has ever been known to be extant until a short time ago, when the York County Historical Society discovered a seal of

the Borough of York County," of which an engraving is given herewith. This seal was engraved by William Wagner, of York, at some time between the years 1831 and 1835. The name P. Davis on the boiler is engraved on the seal and indicates that the people of York were then proud of the achievement of one of their citizens, as they well might be, for he invented and built at York the first locomotive burning anthracite coal that was put into successful operation. Phineas Davis in 1833 moved to Baltimore, where he became superintendent of the shops of Ross Winans, of that city. He was killed accidentally in 1835 while running one of his locomo-



tives over the B. & O. road between Baltimore and Ellicott Mills.

Big Floods.

The flood of 1817 caused great destruction of property in York and throughout the county. A remarkable downpour of rain fell for several hours and the Codorus became a roaring torrent nearly half a mile wide, rolling through streets of York like a mighty river.

The most destructive flood in the history of the county occurred on the night of June 25 and the morning of June 26, 1884. The rain began to fall early in the evening of the 25th, gradually increasing in amount, and it continued one pelting, pouring stream of rain as if the floodgates of Heaven had

been opened, until 3 A. M. During the night the astonishing amount of twelve inches of rain had fallen in various points in York County.

The Codorus and Conewago and other streams in the county swelling up to the size of raging, rushing, roaring rivers. A careful estimate made by the writer soon after the flood credits the amount of 130,000,000 tons of rainfall in the territory drained by the Codorus. Most of this water passed through York, widening the stream on Market Street from beyond Newberry Street nearly to the York National Bank, and increased its depth twenty-five feet. The entire destruction of property in the city and county was about \$700,000. The county commissioners, Messrs. Haines, Keefer and Bentz, were required to expend \$91,000 for the erection of twenty-one bridges, that had been taken away in the county.

One Hundredth Anniversary.

The centennial of our existence as a nation was celebrated amid great enthusiasm in York, July 4, 1876. There was a grand paean of all the bells in town from midnight till one o'clock A. M. Then followed huge bonfires and a brilliant display of fireworks and the roar of guns and cannons. The streets were rife with people and at daybreak music filled the air. The town in general was handsomely decorated but the fire companies excelled all precedents by a tasteful and elegant display of ornamentation. At 6 A. M. a vast concourse of people witnessed the raising of a large and elegant American flag on a pole erected in Centre Square. In the forenoon a parade of military companies, firemen and various orders, in all 5,000 men, passed through the leading streets escorted by many bands discoursing patriotic music. Captain Frank Geise was chief marshal and his aids were Major H. S. McNair, George W. Heiges, John Blackford, Horace Keesey.

Following the parade were commemorative exercises in Centre Square, on the site where Congress met during the Revolution. Rev. Dr. Lochman delivered the opening prayer. the Hadyn quartette sang "A Hundred Years Ago." Fitz James Evans read the Declaration of Independence and Hon. John Gibson read an historical sketch of York County. In the evening the people again assembled in Centre Square and listened to a grand chorus led by Prof. Gipe, the reading of a poem "One Hundredth Birthday" by E. Norman Gunnison, and an oration by George W. McElroy. A splendid exhibition of fireworks on the fair grounds ended the day's celebration.

York was founded in 1741 by Thomas and Richard Penn. It became the seat of justice in 1749, when York County was organized. During the Revolution the population was about

1600. It was incorporated as the Borough of York in 1787, and was chartered by the State of Pennsylvania as the City of York in 1887. It was never officially known as "Yorktown," even though this name was applied to it frequently during the Revolution and as late as 1800. The population of York in 1790 was 2,076; 1800, 2,503; 1810, 3,201; 1830, 3,545; 1830, 4,772; 1840, 5,840; 1850, 6,963; 1860, 8,605; 1870, 11,103; 1880, 13,971; 1890, 20,793; 1900, 33,708. The estimated population of the city and its suburbs in 1906 is 43,000.

Hanover was founded in 1763 by Colonel Richard McAlister, who commanded a regiment of troops in the Revolution. The town was incorporated in 1815. Its population in 1820 was 946; in 1860, 1,630; 1900, 5,302. The population in 1906, including the villages adjoining the borough is about 8,000.

Wrightsville is situated on historic ground. While Congress was in session at Philadelphia, and a permanent seat of government was being discussed, either the east side of the river at Columbia or the west side at Wrightsville was designated as a suitable place for the capital of the United States. At one time in the discussion, there were strong indications that the bill would pass both houses of Congress and the place known as Wright's Ferry would become the seat of the United States government. About the same time, at the direction of Senator Maclay, of Pennsylvania, a territory ten miles square with York as the centre, was surveyed for the purpose of presenting a bill to Congress to make York the capital of the United States. Washington was made the seat of government in 1801. Wrightsville was founded in 1811, and incorporated as a borough in 1834.

Among the older towns in York County are Lewisberry, founded in 1798; Newberrytown in 1791; Dillsburg in 1800; Dover in 1764; Shrewsbury, originally called Strasburg, in 1800; Stewartstown in 1814; Loganville in 1820; Glen Rock, 1837; Manchester Borough in 1815; York Haven in 1810; Jefferson in 1812; Franklintown in 1813; Wellsville in 1843; New Market in 1807; Goldsboro in 1850.

There are a number of towns in the county that are of recent origin. Through the energy of the citizens and the business and manufacturing enterprises in these towns, they have grown rapidly in population. Among these are Red Lion, Dallastown, Spring Grove, Delta, Mt. Wolf, Yorkana, Yoe Borough, Jacobus, Hellam, East Prospect, Windsor and Emigsville. Some of the other centres of population are Weiglestown, Davidsburg, Kralltown, Rossville, Round Town, New Holland, Pleasureville, Alpine, Fawn Grove, Cross Roads, Gatchelville, Seven Valley, Railroad Borough, New Park, New Freedom, West Bangor, Siddonsburg, Airville, Strinestown, Big Mount, Yocumtown, Baughmansville.

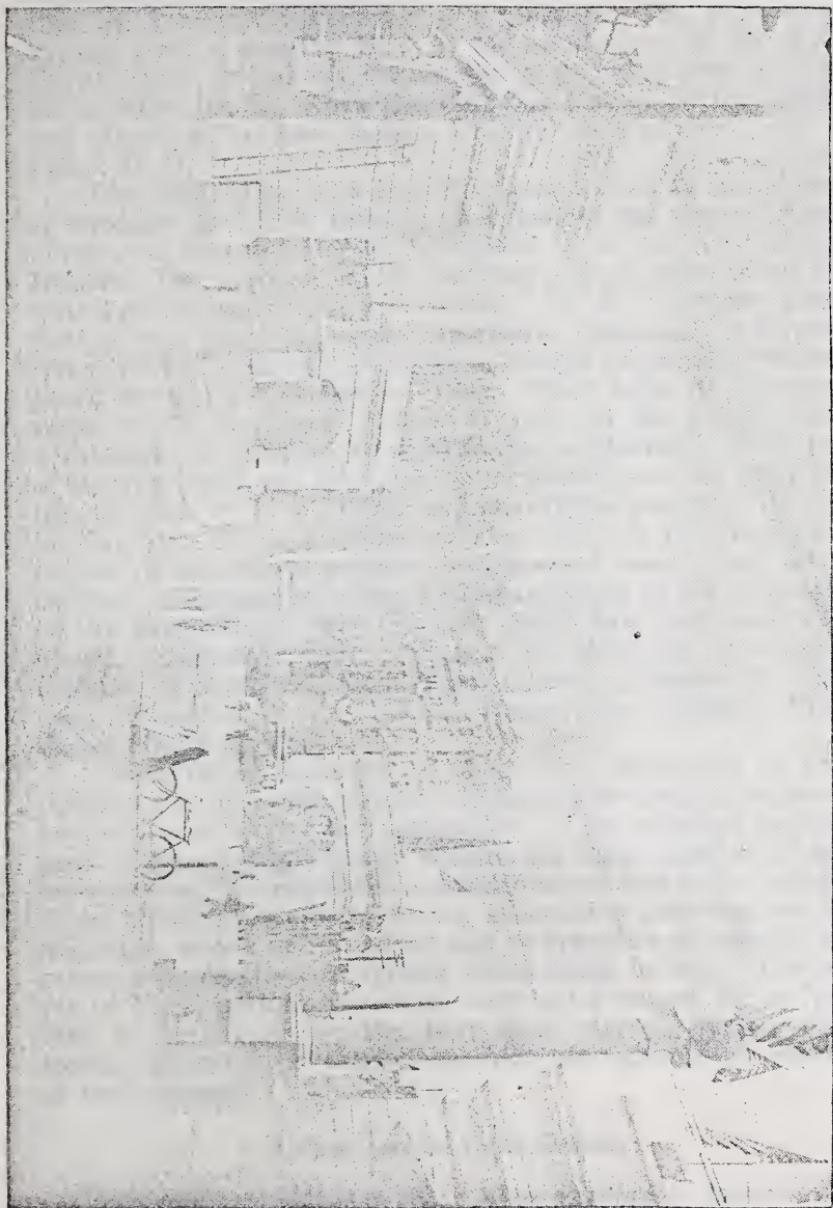
York Borough Centennial.

An event of special interest and importance was the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of York, celebrated September 24 and 25, 1887, with imposing ceremonies. On that occasion 30,000 visitors were in attendance. The town was filled with people. Public buildings, stores and private houses were decorated with flags, evergreens and bunting and the anniversary day was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon. During the forenoon 3,000 school children marched in procession through the principal streets. The boys wore uniform caps and the girls were dressed in white. They were reviewed from a stand in Centre Square by Governor James A. Beaver, who at the close of the parade delivered an address. He was followed by Deputy Superintendent of Schools Henry Houch and Prof. W. H. Shelly. Five hundred young ladies on a large platform sang several patriotic selections. During the noon hour the chimes of Trinity church played the national airs as well as sacred music.

In the afternoon there was a parade of the military, the Grand Army of the Republic, the firemen and secret orders. In all there were 2,000 men in line, while thirty bands and drum corps furnished the music. Colonel Levi Maish was chief marshal. His aids were Major Ruhl, Captains Fahs, Greenewalt and Reynolds, Dr. McKinnon, Thornton Hendrickson, Daniel Fishel, Stephen Wilson and Augustus Flury. After the parade the governor held a reception in the opera house and in the evening there was a brilliant display of fireworks on the public Common. The succeeding day there was an immense parade of Odd Fellows, Red Men, American Mechanics and a long succession of floats representing business houses and manufacturing establishments followed by an illustration of farming as it was conducted 100 years ago and today. When the parade was ended Hon. Chauncey F. Black delivered an eloquent oration in the opera house, and then Judge Gibson read an excellent historical sketch of the town. The exercises closed by a grand chorus singing "A Hundred Years Ago," and "A Hundred Years to Come."

Sesqui-Centennial of York County.

The celebration in 1899, of the Sesqui-Centennial, or the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the erection of York County, was one of the most interesting events in the history of York. The plan originated with the York Board of Trade, and at a meeting of citizens held May 13, 1899, a general committee was appointed, composed of Milton B. Gibson, President; George S. Billmeyer, Treasurer; Houston E. Landis, Secretary; and M. L. Van Baman, Isaac Rudisill, J. Frank



Court of Honor

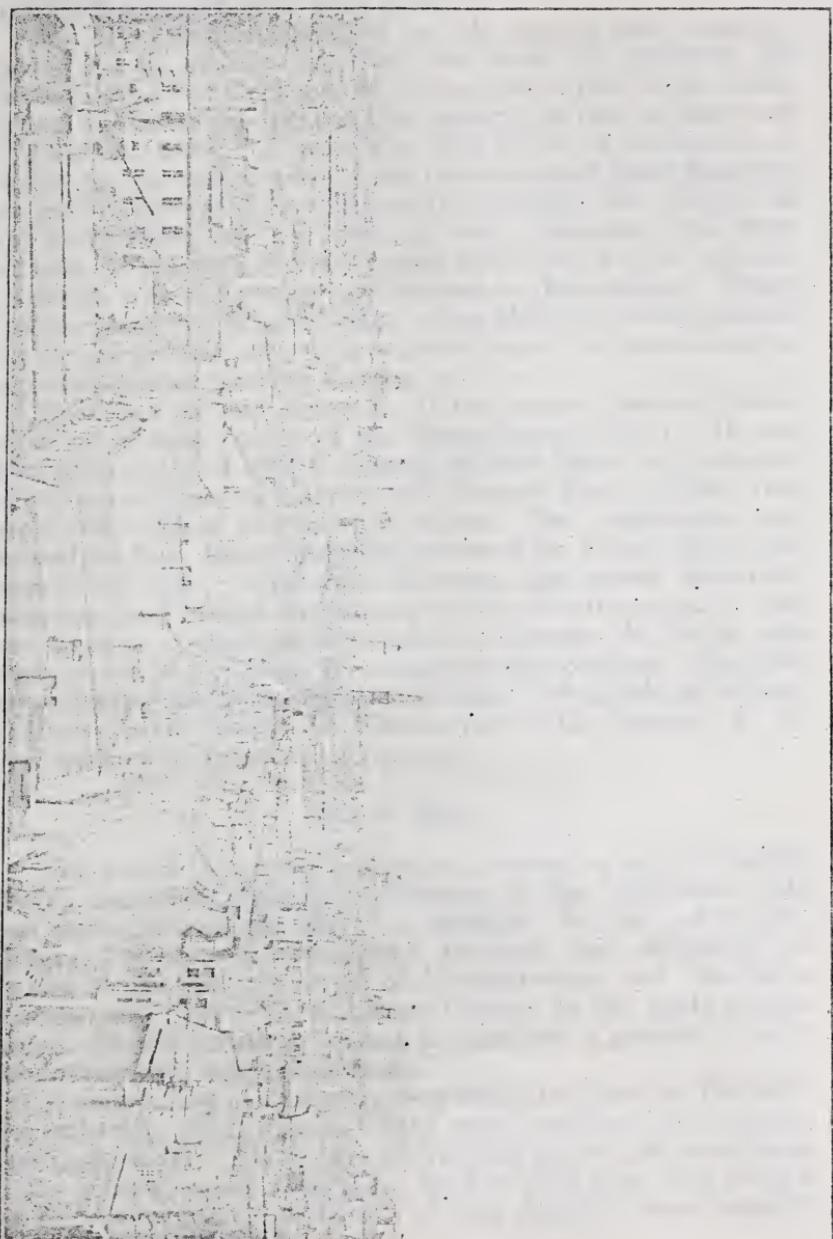
Gable, S. M. Manifold, Captain W. H. Lanius, Grier Hersh, John Garrety, H. E. Powell, Dr. E. T. Jeffers, H. C. Niles, R. F. Gibson, George W. Gross, and William A. Froelich. This committee decided to hold a four days' demonstration in the City of York on September 3, 4, 5 and 6. The ceremonies opened with a meeting held in the auditorium of the York High School on Sunday, September 3, presided over by Rev. H. E. Niles, D. D., when the religious history of the county was discussed by Rev. James Drummond and Rev. W. S. Freas, D. D.

The celebration was formally inaugurated in an address of welcome by M. B. Gibson, chairman of the General Committee, on the morning of September 4, at the York Opera House. The purpose of this meeting was to listen to an historical review of the city and county. Dr. E. T. Jeffers, President of the York Collegiate Institute, presided. Addresses were delivered relating to the three classes of people who composed the original settlers of York. Hon. John W. Bittenger spoke of the Germans; Robert C. Bair, of the Scotch-Irish; and George R. Prowell, of the Friends or Quakers. This part of the exercises was followed by an address on the early history of York by H. C. Niles, and an original poem by William M. Gamble. In the afternoon of the same day the people witnessed an impressive pageant composed of nearly 5,000 school children, marching to a flag raising in honor of the dedication of the magnificent High School which had just been completed. Addresses were delivered by Hon. E. D. Ziegler, member of Congress from York County; Charles H. Stallman, President of the School Board, and Captain Frank Geise, Mayor of York.

The greatest concourse of people ever assembled in York, possibly not less than 100,000, witnessed the industrial parade on the second day of the celebration. This included one hundred and sixty-eight floats, besides the large number of men representing the industrial establishments and large corporations. The civic parade of the succeeding day was no less imposing, about one hundred and twenty-five companies and secret organizations of various kinds being in line. The people of York, particularly those who had assumed the arduous task of preparing for the four days' demonstration, could justly congratulate themselves upon the successful outcome of their labors.

Education in York County.

The early Quakers who took up the fertile lands within the present area of York County, beginning as early as 1735, established schools for the education of their children. The Scotch-Irish who by nature were an educating people, also



Birdseye View From Royal Engine House Tower

1900

1900

brought the church and school with them. Church schools similar to those established in Scotland during the latter part of the seventeenth century were connected with the early Presbyterian churches of York County.

The first German churches in this county had parochial schools, yet no systematic effort was made to improve the schools among the Germans in Pennsylvania until 1751, when Michael Schlatter was sent to this country on that mission and did excellent work. A plan was laid by some noblemen of Europe, for the instruction of the Germans and their descendants in Pennsylvania; consequently through the efforts of Rev. Muhlenberg on the part of the Lutherans and Rev. Schlatter on the part of the German Reformed people, parochial schools were very early established in this county. These schools continued till about 1830. In addition to these parochial schools, private schools were established in places remote from churches or meeting houses.

The York County Academy is the oldest chartered institution of learning, west of the Susquehanna River. It was founded in the year 1787. Among its first Board of Trustees were Colonel Thomas Hartley and General Henry Miller, distinguished soldiers of the Revolution. The institution was founded by Rev. John Campbell, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, of York. Thaddeus Stevens, the great American statesman, and Daniel Kirkwood, the noted astronomer, at one time were instructors at this school. George W. Ruby was principal of the Academy for a quarter of a century. Stephen Boyer served the same length of time. Principals of a later date have been George W. Gross, David H. Gardner, E. E. Wentworth and James H. Crowell.

Act of 1834.

The act of 1834 establishing our present system of public schools caused an exciting discussion in the legislature. Its final passage was considered a triumph by its advocates. This act was passed and signed through the influence of George Wolf, then governor of Pennsylvania, and Thaddeus Stevens, who represented Adams County in the State Legislature. It was entitled "an act to establish a general system of education by common schools."

A convention of delegates assembled in York on Tuesday, November 4, 1834. Jacob Dietz was president and Daniel Small, secretary. "Will this convention accept the provisions of the school law as passed in April of this year, and shall a tax be laid for the expenditures of each district?" was brought up for consideration.

The following named persons voted in the affirmative, in the order given: Samuel Prowell, representing Fairview;

Luther H. Skinner, Hanover; Jacob Emmitt, South Ward, York; Godlove Kane, North Ward, York; James H. Smith, Chanceford; Robert Gebby, Lower Chanceford; John Livingstone, Peachbottom.

The other townships of the county accepted the system during the succeeding ten years.

County Superintendency.

During the first twenty years after the establishment of the public school system in Pennsylvania, there was no general supervision of schools. An act was passed in 1854 creating the office of county superintendent. Jacob Kirk, of Fairview Township, was the first person who filled that office in York County. He served one year, and then resigned. G. Christopher Stair, of York, was appointed his successor and after filling the position for fifteen months, resigned on account of ill health. Dr. A. R. Blair, of York, was appointed to complete the term and was elected in 1857 for a term of three years. He was re-elected in 1860, and in 1862 he resigned to become a surgeon in the United States army. Daniel M. Ettinger, of York, was appointed to complete the term. Samuel B. Heiges, of Dillsburg, was elected in 1863 and re-elected in 1866. Stephen G. Boyd, principal of the schools of Wrightsville, was elected in 1869. He was succeeded by William H. Kain, of West Manchester Township, a recent graduate of Pennsylvania College. He served two terms and was succeeded in 1878 by David G. Williams, who was twice re-elected. In 1887, H. C. Brenneman, of Warrington Township, then principal of the York High School, was elected and re-elected in 1890. During the last year of his second term the state school law went into effect providing free text books. David H. Gardner, principal of the Wrightsville schools, and for many years connected with the York County Normal School, was elected in 1893. He was three times re-elected, serving in all twelve years. Charles W. Stine, principal of the public schools of Dallastown, was elected to the office of county superintendent in 1905.

In 1855, the first county superintendent reported 279 schools in York County, conducted under the act which established the public schools. The official report of 1905 recorded 523 teachers in the county, and 156 in the city of York.

The public schools of York County have gradually improved since the introduction of the system in 1834. Originally plain and unpretentious school buildings were used. During the past thirty years the advancement has been so successful as to command the admiration of all persons interested in public education. Some splendid school buildings have been erected in all the townships of the county, and high

school buildings of modern architecture have been built within the past few years in Hanover, Spring Grove, Delta and Dillsburg. A township high school is kept up at Glenville, in Codorus Township.

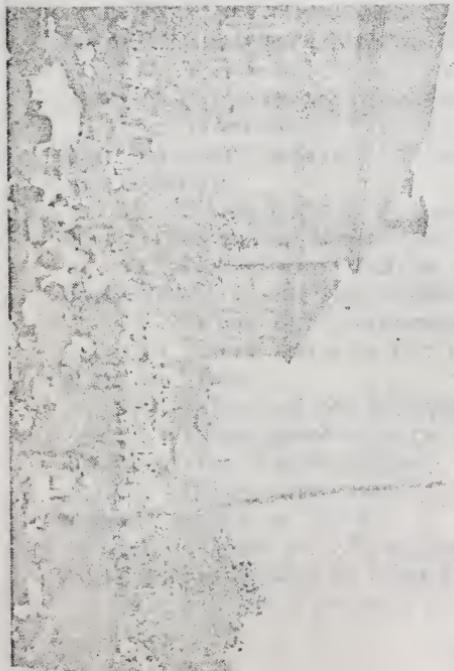
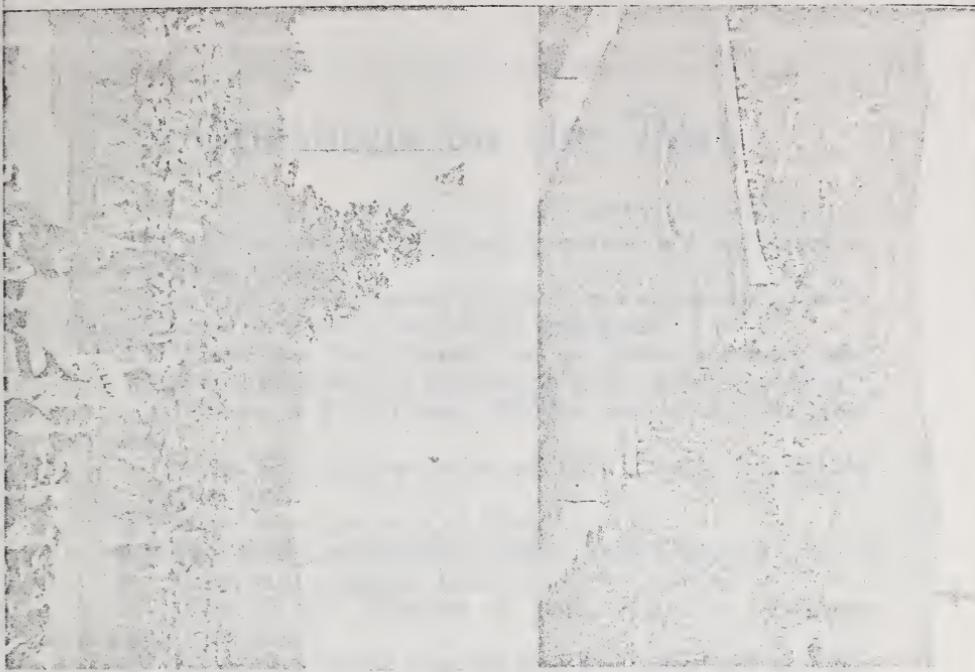
The number of pupils enrolled for the year 1906 is 20,000.

The Schools of York.

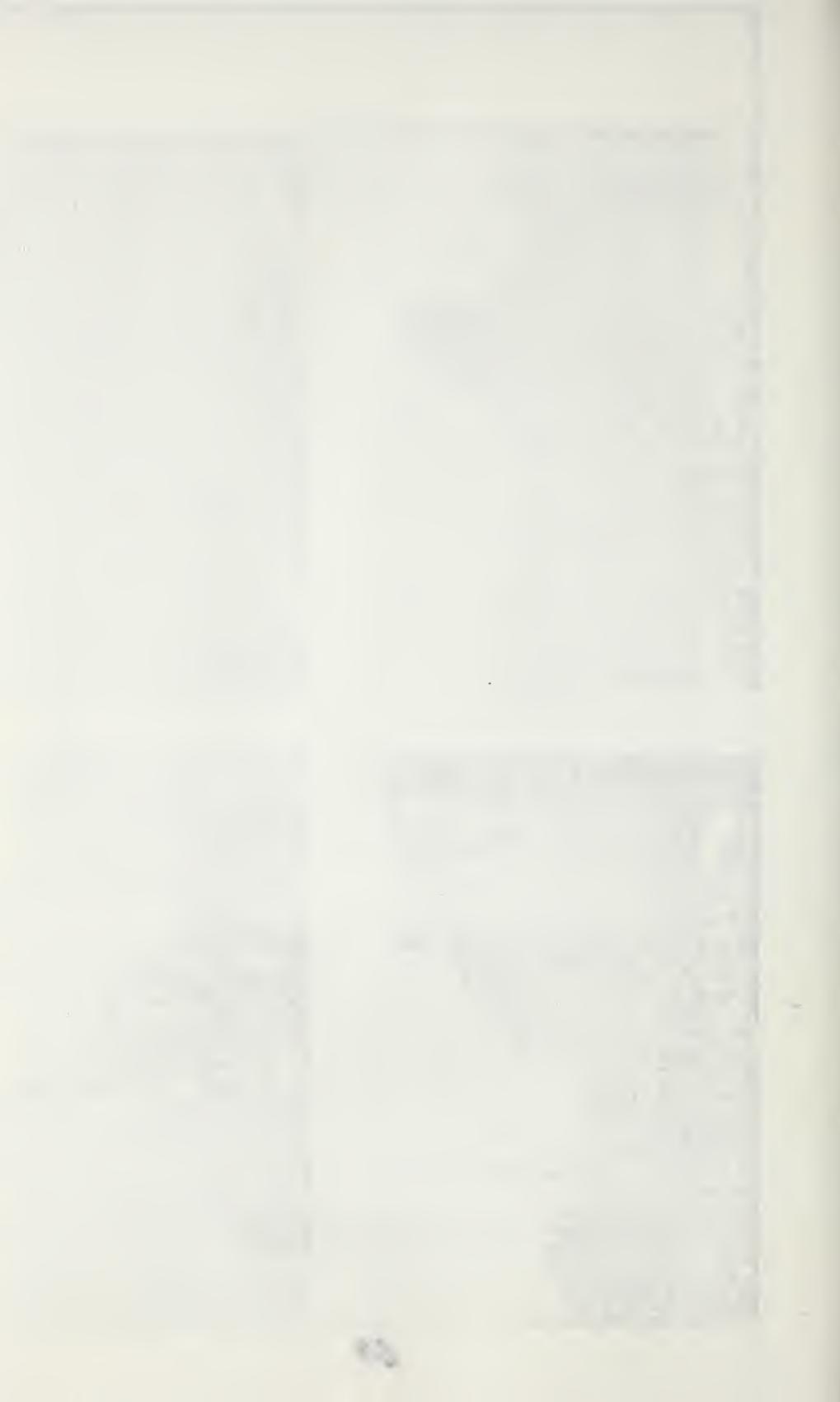
The City of York is noted for its superior educational advantages, and large commodious public school buildings and excellent private institutions of learning. Soon after the town was founded there were parochial schools connected with all the churches. Bartholomew Moul, one of the first settlers, taught the school belonging to Christ's Lutheran church and Ludwig Kraft had charge of the school connected with Zion Reformed church. For nearly a century thereafter the boys and girls of the town of York obtained their education in private or church schools.

The first public school buildings owned by the town were erected in 1838. From 1854 to 1871 the York schools were under the supervision of the county superintendent. In 1871 William H. Shelley was chosen the first borough superintendent. With the aid and advice of an active and efficient Board of Education, of which Dr. Samuel J. Rouse was secretary, he soon established a graded system of schools and founded the High School. During this period, many of the old school buildings were replaced by new ones, which were fitted up with modern school furniture. The erection of school buildings has been continued with commendable activity, and at present (1906) there are twenty-seven school buildings containing all the modern improvements of school architecture and equipments. The aggregate valuation of the school property in York for 1906 is \$740,000. The valuation of school property in 1876 was \$125,000.

In 1898, the School Board purchased a site facing Penn Park and upon it erected for the City High School a building of modern architecture. It is one of the most imposing buildings of its kind in this country, costing \$170,000. The large auditorium has a seating capacity of 1,600 persons. B. F. Willis, of York, was the architect. C. B. Pennypacker has been principal of the High School since 1903. The number of teachers in all the public schools is 157; the number of pupils enrolled for 1906 is 6,500. A. Wanner has been superintendent of schools since 1890.



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Questions on the Text

The answers to the following questions will be found in the preceding pages.

1. What were the names of the three original counties in Pennsylvania, and when were they organized?
2. When was York County laid out, what did it include, and what was its area and population when first organized?
3. When was York County divided, and what is its present area?
4. What was the population of York County in 1783, in 1860, and in 1900?
5. When was the town of York laid out?
6. How many people then lived in York County?
7. What is the highest point in York County?
8. What is the elevation of York, Hanover, Wrightsville and Red Lion?
9. When and where was the first township laid out, the first canal built and the first railroad constructed in York County?
10. What three nationalities first settled in York County, and from what countries did they originally come?
11. When and where were the first houses for religious worship built, and by what denomination?
12. When and where did the first troops of York County join the army under Washington? Tell something about this company.
13. Name some of the noted soldiers from York County who served in the Revolution.
14. Name some battles in which York County troops participated, in the Revolution.
15. When did Continental Congress remove to York?
16. Name some of the noted men who served in Congress at York.
17. Who was the first president of Congress at York?
18. What great victory gave rise to the First National Thanksgiving Proclamation?
19. Under what circumstances did Samuel Adams make a great speech at York?
20. Where was Washington and his army when Congress was in session at York?
21. For what purpose did Baron Steuben come to York?

22. Tell something about the United States Treasury Building at York, and Archibald McLean, its owner.
23. What can you tell about the Conway Cabal?
24. Tell something about York County in the War of 1812.
25. Tell what you can of the Confederate occupation of York in 1863.
26. Where did Early's troops go when they left York?
27. What two companies from York County first entered the Union army?
28. Tell something about Washington's visit to York.
29. Give an account of Lafayette's visit to York.
30. When was the act of the legislature passed establishing the present school system of Pennsylvania?
31. How many Court Houses have there been at York?
32. Tell something about the locomotive made by Phineas Davis.
33. Tell something about the first stone house in York County.
34. Name four creeks in York County, and tell where they flow.
35. Bound York County.

Questions on Current History

The following is a list of questions, prepared at the suggestion of the County Superintendent, for use in examination of teachers:

1. What can you say of the recovery and recent burial of the remains of John Paul Jones?
2. What was the treaty of Portsmouth, and between what nations was it made?
3. What countries of Europe, recently one nation, are now separate kingdoms?
4. Name the present rulers of England, Germany, Russia and Italy.
5. What is wireless telegraphy, and who invented it?
6. Name the different kinds of vessels in the American navy.
7. What were the causes and what were the results of the recent war between Russia and Japan?
8. What is the Hague Tribunal, and for what purpose was it originated?
9. What may be considered the main objects of the recent treaty, signed between England and Japan?
10. Who is the speaker of the fifty-ninth Congress and what are his principal duties?
11. Describe the projected Panama Canal and show its advantages when completed.
12. What recent possessions have been acquired by the United States, and how are they governed?
13. Name the cabinet officers of President Roosevelt.
14. What can you say of the new capitol at Harrisburg?
15. How many judges compose the United States Supreme Court? Who is the present Chief Justice of this Court?
16. Name some of the noted generals of the army now living.
17. Name some of the marriages that have taken place in the White House at Washington.
18. What can you tell about the proposed law relating to railroad rebates?
19. What territories were designated for admission into the Union by Statehood Bill presented to the fifty-ninth Congress?
20. What are the causes of difficulties between the coal miners and operators?

21. Name five of the leading railroads in the United States. What is meant by abolishing railroad rebates?
22. What does Walter Wellman propose to accomplish in his airship?
23. What are the arguments in favor of the Income Tax Law?
24. Tell what you know about the recent volcanic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.
25. Describe the recent earthquake in California.

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